THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA has after all taken the High Court into confidence anent the proposed Bill, extending the jurisdiction of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. In a letter to the Registrar of the High Court the Home Secretary writes:

"Since the year 1838 there have been before the Government of India sundry proposals for extending the powers and the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts. Among these proposals was the suggestion made by the Calcutta Trades Association in 1867 that the money limit of the Small Cause Court's jurisdiction should be raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000. The Small Cause Court Judges (Messrs. Fagan and N. Thompson) reported that it would probably be a convenience to the public if the extension were to Rs. 5,000 instead of Rs. 2,000. There was a difference of opinion in the Calcutta High Court on the proposal, but the Chief Justice and the Bengal Government agreed (1868) that the jurisdiction might with advantage be raised to Rs. 2,000. The Madras Government and the High Court were also in favour of such an extension.

A second proposal was that the limit of exclusion for Small Cause Court cases from the original side of the High Court should be raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 300, or even Rs. 500. Sir Colley Scotland, Chief Justice, suggested that, in view of the high attainments of the Presidency Small Cause Court Judges, the limit of absolute exclusion from the High Court should be raised to Rs. 300 or Rs. 500. The Madras Government quoted with approval Sir Colley Scotland's opinion And Her Majesty's Secretary of State, Sir Charles Wood, recognised that the need for this alteration of the Letter Patent might arise in order to relieve adequately the pressure of petty original suit work on the Judges of the High Court.

The Home Secretary adds:

"I am directed to request that His Excellency the Governor General in Council may be favoured with the opinion of the High Court of Calcutta on these two proposals. There are certain other proposals before the Government which will be embodied in a Bill for amending the law relating to Presidency Small Cause Courts. And the whole Bill, when prepared, will be submitted to the Honourable Judges for advice and suggestions. But before the Bill is drafted the Governor General in Council wishes to learn the opinion of the High Court on the two proposals mentioned above. If the extension of the Small Cause Court limit of jurisdiction to Rs. 2,000 be carried out, the question will arise whether the decision of Small Cause Court Judges in cases valued at over Rs. 1,000 should be liable to appeal. On this point, too, I am to ask the opinion of the High Court of Calcutta.

This letter is dated the 24th January last, and the Chief Justice in speaking at the Trades' Dinner on the 30th idem said that he had heard nothing about the extension of the jurisdiction of the Small Cause Court. Evidently his Lordship was not then aware of the letter in question.

WE ARE INFORMED that among a list of 97 English firms, all members of the "National Chamber of Trade," who have petitioned the Government of India in favor of the "value-payable parcels system," there appear the following names of well-known London houses:

Messrs. Marshall and Snelgrave	Redmague and Co.
Devenham and Freebody	Peal and Co.
Lewis and Allenby	Lincoln and Bennett
Howel and James	Harrison and Sons
Swan and Edgar	Henry Poole and Co.
Peter Robinson	Andri and Co.
W. Whiteby	Buckmaster and Co.
Halling Pearce and Stone (Waterloo House)	Hill and Heath
	M'Cabe and Co.
James Shoolbred	Mappin and Webb
Sutton and Sons	

But the Government ought to look to the interests of India and not to those of English tradesmen.

THE NUMBER of suicides reported by the police in 1877 amount, according to the Inspector-General's report, to 2,512—751 men, 1,729 women and 32 children. The districts of Nuddea, Jessore, Gya and Cuttack show the largest numbers, and Darjeeling, Chittagong Hill Tracts and Bhagulpore the smallest. In the district of Gya there were only 13 suicides among men and 163 among women. Suicides of children were also most common in this district.

SOME IMPORTANT inventions have been made in connection with printing. Messrs. Conisbee and Sons have just completed a machine which is capable of printing by all three processes, typographic, lithographic, and copper-plate. Mr. David Payne, of Otley, the inventor of the "Wharfedale," has contrived a two-feeder machine that will print any sized sheet beginning with a card up to full size the traverse of the machine being regulated according to the size of the sheet. The principle is also adapted to single-feeder machines.

IT APPEARS from a list published by a Paris paper that in the course of the past year 244 newspapers and other periodicals were founded in France. Of these 12 were daily, 4 were to appear weekly, 23 fortnightly, [illegible]. For the rest interval of publication is not stated.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL thus sharply notices the delay in the submission of the report of the Surgeon General on the administration of the charitable hospitals and dispensaries in Bengal:

The report under review, like its three immediate predecessors, has been submitted nearly twelve months after the close of the period of which it treats. Still it is rendered incomplete by the omission of the statistics of seventeen dispensaries. Much of the delay in the submission of these reports is said to arise from the practice under which the returns of each dispensary are transmitted to the Surgeon-General, not direct by the Civil Surgeon, but through the District Magistrate and the Commissioner of the Division. Though this might account, however, for some want of punctuality, it in no way explains the intolerable delays which have occurred. There are nine dispensaries in the Jessore districts, yet no returns from them for the year 1877, had reached the Surgeon-General on the 18th December 1878. Returns are still wanting from three dispensaries in Durbhunga, including the sudder, out of four. The Lieutenant Governor desires that a special report may be submitted at once in each of these cases. The Surgeon-General has recently proposed that the figured returns should be sent to him direct by the Civil Surgeons, the reports reaching him through the present channels, and this suggestion has the Lieutenant Governor's approval. Under orders separately issued, the 30th of April has been fixed as the date on which the Surgeon-General's report should be submitted, and the Lieutenant Governor desires that Government may be informed on 1st April of all cases in which the returns and reports have not then reached the Surgeon General. The Lieutenant Governor will then take such notice of cases of delay and neglect as shall prevent for the future such gross negligence as has occurred at Jessore and Durbhunga.

But as the saying goes—hard words break no bones. The censure is passed annually, but it takes little effect.

TUESDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE received the following letter from our correspondent on the North Eastern frontier:

Some time about this season, last year, a letter appeared in the *Pioneer* stating that there is no marriage system among the Angani Nagas. A translation of the same was also published in a leading vernacular paper of Calcutta. The statement, so far as we are aware of, is quite unwarrantable by the facts which every day brings to our notice. The fact is, the marriage system of the Anganies, though loose if contrasted with that of a civilized community, is certainly not less binding upon themselves, nor can it be said not suited to the present state of their society. Their young ladies (if one can indulge in such an expressions) have free choice in the selection of their partners in life. Their parents or other nearest relatives never interfere in the matter. When a man proposes to marry, he must, in the first instance, communicate with the natural guardians of the woman. Before the betrothment she is allowed to consult her omens for a certain number of days. This is invariably done by letting the woman to think upon the proposed alliance especially when she goes to sleep. During her dream if she meet with favorable omens for three successive nights, she will consent to the proposal and convey her particular wishes and desires, if any, through a female of the household. If the bride-groom have no objection to this as well as to several other things of like nature which come from the relatives of the bride, then a day will be fixed for the betrothal when all the relatives and friends of both parties will assemble in a house and enjoy the feast at the bridegrooms's cost. On another day fixed by the parties called Thenhuchhe the marriage is celebrated.

If this is not marriage your informer certainly does not know what to call it. Our regret is that even the best informed gentlemen of the Vernacular Press should commit themselves to such a length as to contract the infection breathed by foreigners without knowing what it is. It is not impossible for the sojourners in this country to commit such mistakes, but it is certainly not very creditable to the leaders of native opinion to circulate such stuff without testing the truth, especially, when it is of some importance to their own countrymen, savage though they be.

THE JAPAN GAZETTE gives the following item of Shanghai news:

"A large cotton mill for spinning and weaving by steam is being built on the Pootung side of the Shanghai river Whang Poo. The mill is in the midst of cotton fields, the water of the river is good, and abundant labour of men, women, and children can be had at low prices. It seems very probable that before two or three years passed away, several more mills will be made, and it is likely that this year a mill will be built at Tientsin for making the thick cotton cloths known as Nankings, which are much worn by the Chinese, and for which there is a very large sale in Mongolia and Manchuria. There is every reason to believe that other manufactories will be set up, and Shanghai will probably become like Bombay, a manufacturing centre."

What will Manchester do now? There is no import duty to be abolished.

THE LUCKNOW WITNESS has the following:

Great Britain's drink bill is no less than £142,000,000 a year and constantly increasing. Until this gigantic leak is stopped it is idle to expect permanent prosperity. When a nation wastes the chief part of its income on alcoholic liquors year after year, there must come a reckoning time. It is strange that so few realize the magnitude of the danger or are willing to take any thorough-going measures for the reform of this stupendous evil.

If a man will dig his own grave, who can save him?

IN HIS recent speech on the condition of trade in England, the Earl of Derby said, the estimate had been made on good authority, that English capitalists have lent more than three hundred millions sterling to States that will never pay them a shilling. How credulous sometimes are these English capitalits.

THE GREAT Council of Geneva, Switzerland, has accepted the principle of separation of Church and State, and has appointed a committee to examine the Separation Bill.

A RETURN has just been published giving the nationalities of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men at present serving in the British Army. The figures, which it affords, show that it is entirely a mistake to suppose that Ireland furnishes the bulk of our recruits. Of the officers 5,738 are described as English, 785 as Scotch, and 1,386 as Irish; while of the non-commissioned officers and rank and file, England supplies 124,708, Scotland 14,235, and Ireland 39,121. It is remarkable that during the last ten years the number of Scotch and Irish soldiers has gradually decreased, and the number of Englishmen serving in the Army has correspondingly increased. On the 1st January, 1868, the numbers were 206,801 English, 17,011 Scotch, and 55,583 Irish.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY.

THE GREAT FRENCH novelist, Victor Hugo, tells this story about his own childhood—his father, be it remembered, was one of Napoleon's generals: "When I was five or six years old I was crying. My father who heard me, did not reprove me, but this is the way he punished me: 'Why, the poor, dear, little girl,' he said, in a cool, ironical manner, 'what's the matter with her? Who has been making her cry? She sha'n't be found fault with; it's right for little girls to cry. But how's this? What have you been dressing her in boy's clothes for? Make her a pretty frock at once; and tomorrow she shall go and take a walk in the garden of the Tuileries.' Sure enough the nurse put a girl's dress on me the next day according to order, and took me to walk at the Tuileries. I was well mortified, as you may, perhaps, imagine. But I never cried again from that day until I had become a man grown."

THE LONDON LETTER of the *Times of India* has the following:

"A regulation has now been made by the Indian Secretary of State that gentlemen belonging to the India Office or otherwise in the service of the Indian Government shall not be permitted to read papers at public institutions on subjects relating to the business of their office, and hence it is understood that the promised meetings cannot take place. But a very fair question was asked in the tea room of the Society of Arts, and that is, Where is Lord Cranbrook going to draw the line? Are the under-officials who have no secrets to reveal to be made the subject of the edict, or does it apply to the higher permanent officers and dignitaries? They say that not a little vexation has been caused in high quarters by the "indiscretion" of two members of the Indian Council much addicted to writing for the magazines and reviews, and it is a fact that it is to these periodicals that the public turn for the indications of future movement on the part of the Indian Government. Is Sir Henry Rawlinson now strictly enjoined to close his mouth in the learned societies, and ordered not to write for the papers, except, of course, when he is wanted to "salt the ground' for the Government? Is Colonel Yule not to be permitted to take the chair at a meeting, or to contribute to a paper? And are we to hear or read nothing more from Sir Henry Maine? If utter dumbness is to be inflicted upon the members of the Indian Council generally, the routine and etiquette of officialism may be satisfied, but the result to the public will be eminently unsatisfactory.

So the official mouth regarding Indian matters is to be sealed everywhere. This is imperialism with a vengeance.

THE Lord Mayor of London has declined to accede to the request made in a petition signed by over 200 firms in the city, that he should convene a public meeting in the Guildhall, "to memorialize the Government to appoint a parliamentary inquiry into the cause of the prolonged depression of trade, with the view, if necessary, of modifying our present so-called free-trade system." His Lordship, in his reply, says that he does not think that such a meeting as is proposed would have any useful purpose or valueable result either in inducing the Government to appoint the official inquiry in question, or, what is much more imminent and important, in removing the present

depressed state of trade. The Government, he is sure, need no such stimulus to do what may be best or necessary to remedy the undoubtedly gloomy condition of affairs. It is thus in the discretion of the Lord Mayor to convene a public meeting or not.

THE HOME GOVERNMENT, it is stated, have thanked the Indian Government for their offer of troops to proceed to the Cape, and expressed gratification at the readiness and ability of India to help. At the same time Her Majesty's Government have not availed themselves for the present of the proffered contingents.

THE HINDU MELA of Calcutta opened on the 11th instant and closed on the 16th idem. As usual there were exhibition of articles of art and agricultural produce, wrestling matches, gymnastic feats, processions, songs, fire-works &c. Roma Bai also lectured.

RETRENCHMENT, it is said, is the order of the day at St. Petersburgh. The cost of the late war has entirely crippled the Russian exchequer, and even if Turkey should be able at any future time to pay part of the war indemnity stipulated for at San Stefano, it will go not much further than pouring a few drops of water on a hot stone. A special committee has lately been instituted to inquire into the means of cutting down the public expenditure.

THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us regarding the working of the License tax in the Howrah district to the following effect :—

The inhabitants of no other place I believe have been more wronged by the assessor of the License tax than those of Bogri, Bomapara, Kesobapore, Khatorah and several other villages in thanah Domejoor, a place only 9 miles west of Howrah. The major portion of the residents of the above places are cultivators and weavers. You are aware what profit the Bengal weavers make from their trade, but to our misfortune the License tax assessor has assessed a tax from one to 5 rupees for looms, which are worked when their owners find no occupation as day-labourer and only when they have no better work to attend to. These wretched people though in want of one full meal a day are now called upon to pay Rs. 5, for having the misfortune to keep a loom in their humble cottage. That very loom which in bygonedays maintained them and their family in comfort has now proved a curse to them and they are now under the painful necessity of parting with it.

The traders and shop-keepers are also called upon to take Licenses on payment of a fee upon their earnings not at the rate of 2 per cent as the law provides but some, at 10 and others at 20 per cent. But this is not all. Those who have protested against this oppressive assessment are harrassed to the utmost, now they are ordered to call at the assessor's cutchery at Jugguthballobpore, another time at Howrah, and the third time at Sankrail. They obey, but the assessor, under some pretext or other, put off the hearing their objections from day to day. This way the poor victims of the License tax are made to run every time 10 or 12 miles from their homes at the sacrifice of their business and to the misery of their children, who live on the daily earnings of their parents, more than a month they are thus harassed, yet no order is passed on their applications.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Secretary of State has issued instructions that in all special covenants made in England with persons engaged for service in India a clause shall be inserted reserving to the Government of India the right to modify the leave and pension rules, and to decide, should dispute arise, as to the interpretation of those rules.

AT YESTERDAY'S sitting of the Vice-regal Council Mr. Stokes presented further report of the Select Committee on Promissory Notes, Bills of Exchange and Cheques Bill. The Select Committees' reports on the Transfer of Property Bill and on the Code of Civil Procedure Bill were postponed. A Bill to make better provision for recording evidence in the Central Provinces was passed into law. The Council adjourned for a week.

THE AUSTRIAN SCIENTIFIC party that passed through India last year under Count Szechemji has reached Pekin, and has been admitted to an audience with the Chinese Foreign Minister, who has granted them passports to visit the newly conquered provinces of Kashgaria, and letters of introduction to the Chinese Resident at Lhassa in case they should care to pass that way. They intended to proceed inland by the Yangtze river and across country to Lanchou Foo, the capital of Kansu, and so to Tso-Tsung-tangs head-quarters (the Commander-in-Chief of the Army on the West) and after an interview with him they will decide on the best route to be adopted. The travellers will be provided with letters of introduction from Li-hung-Chung (the Viceroy of the province of Chihli,) in addition to those provided by the Foreign Minister.

THE NEPAL ENVOY, General Dhere Shumshere Jung, Rana Bahadur, before parting with Colonel C. E. Impey C. I. E. expressed through the latter his cordial acknowledgements for the hospitality and attention shown to him in India and declared his loyalty and devotion to the British Government.

SOME CORRESPONDENCE has been received from Her Majesty's Consul at Canton showing that a Chinese Military Official named Li collected some 10,000 men in Kwang-si with whom he crossed over into Annan with the object of dethroning the present king of Annan and setting himself on the throne. The King of Annan became alarmed and wrote to the authorities at Canton, who in their turn ordered the border officials to take precautions regarding the persons crossing the frontier into Annan. The Consul appears to think that Li's adventure may have been ordered by the Chinese Government.

THE NEW King of Burmah on his accession to the throne has written two letters to the Queen Empress, one to announce the demise of the late Monarch, and the other his own assumption of power. He has sent similar letters to the Viceroy. For the first time in Burmese history these letters have been written in English.

FRIDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE received the following communication on the new scheme of grading the Subordinate Educational establishment of Bengal :

We gather the following facts from the grade list published by Government.

Among the 316 persons graded there are 15 clerks. One might naturally enough ask what business have clerks to be in this list at all? Do they help in the work of instruction in the way teachers and inspectors do for whose especial benefit the scheme has been introduced? The idea of including them in the same list with officers employed in education, is quite *original* in its way and deserves to be applauded. They have however taken away the morsel out of the mouths of 15 hard-worked school masters. Of the 301 graded officers actually engaged in teaching or supervising, 83 belong to the inspectional line, only 34 of whom, *i. e* less than half the number, get the benefit of the grades, viz.

5	Assistant Inspectors, their number being	5
10	Deputy Inspectors out of	44
19	Sub-Inspectors out of	31
34		83

And there is no knowing how many Sub-Inspectors have remained outside the grades.

There are 12 Moulvis in the grade list, of whom 5 belong to the Calcutta, Madrasa, 2 to Hugli, 2 to Dacca, and 1 each to Patna, Rajshahi, and Chittagong. The Hugli, Madrasa is, as far as we know, next to the one at Calcutta, the oldest in existence in these provinces. All the minor Madrasas that were established in the Mofussil a few years ago are paid out of the Moshin fund which originally belonged to Hugli. How is it then that Moulvis in the Mofussil get the benefit of the grades and the only two men of Hugli whose names are in the list don't get anything at all? One of these two unfortunate men, by the way, is an M. A. of the Calcutta University and the other styled Head Moulvi has been on the same pay for 25 years full. There were more than a dozen Moulavis at our time in Mohammed Moshin's College, two of whom draw Rs. 300. Where are they all gone? And yet Mohammed Moshin's endowment was so magnificent that Government might if it chose pay from it all the 316 men for whose benefit it has now in a fit of bounty resolved to set apart the princely sum of Rs. 22,000. At any rate Moshin's fund would have paid the dozen Moulavis who are in the grade-list and they might well have been dealt with separately.

Talking of the Hugli Madrasa reminds us of a singular anomaly which we meet with in the award of grades among the teachers of the Hugli College. The sixth master finds a place in the fifth grade; but the fourth and fifth masters are in the lower grade. Is this also an instance of *the justice with a vengeance* kind to which the *Bengalee* has called attention.

THE EDITOR of the *Guzerat Mitra*, one of the unfortunate Surat editors, who were prosecuted in the notorious Riots case, has applied to the Judge of Surat for permission to prosecute the Police Inspector Motilal for false evidence. The Judge has taken time to consider the application.

WHAT A horrible tale does the following statement tell!

The Crimean War cost the lives of 750,000 men; the Italian war (1859), 45,000; the Schleswig-Holstein war, 3,000, the Prusso-Austrian war (1866; 45,000 the Mexican expedition 65,000: the Franko Prussian war 215,000; the Turco-Russian war, 6,000,000—total, 1,743,000, or with the 800,000 men killed in the American war, 2,513,000. This number does not include deaths from typhus, cholera, and other diseases inseparable from war. As regards the cost in money, the Crimean war cost the countries engaged £340,000,000; the Italian, £50,000,000 the American £1,480,000,000; the Schleswig-Holstein, £7,000,000 the Prusso-Austrian, £56,000,000; the Mexican Expedition, £40,000,000; the Franco-Prussian, £500,000,000; the Turco-Russian, £250,000,000—total, £2,743,000,000.

WE READ that a new religious association, called the Sikh Sabha, has been established in Lahore. Its members are Hindus, Sindhees and Punjabis, whose object is to disseminate the doctrines of Gooroo Nanuk concerning the unity of the Deity.

WE ARE exceedingly glad to learn that the Government of India has called for papers in the Furruckabad Sub-Judge's case.

ACCORDING to the *Pall Mall Gazette* the abolition of the capital punishment has not proved successful in Switzerland. The alarming increase of murder in most cantons seems to have impressed the Swiss with the conviction that the penalties now in force, are very inefficient deterrents.

A VERY interesting story is related of Mr. Spurgeon the celebrated Preacher. A lady had bequeathed to him £1,000. When the lady died, Mr. Spurgeon discovered that her own relatives were more in need of money than he, and with a readiness and generosity which was exemplary, he handed over the £1,000 to them.

A CONTEMPORARY calls attention to the following :

The Reporter on the Native Press, Bombay, makes the following remarks with regard to the publications in that Presidency for the year 1877 :—"I beg to conclude this brief analysis by observing that, as far as I have been able to notice the general tone of the publications registered during the year, was unobjectionable as regards morality and loyalty." The report is dated the 10th March 1878. How did then Sir Alexander Arbuthnot in introducing the Vernacular Press Bill on the 14th March 1878 observe "that there has been a marked increase of seditious writings of late and specially during the last three or four years. During the past 12 months it has been worse than ever."

SATURDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT says that so much inconvenience is felt by the public by the registration work being given to Assistant Magistrates and Deputy Magistrates whose legitimate duties take up nearly their whole time, that the Government ought to enquire into the matter and redress the public grievance. We must confess that we do receive numerous complaints on the subject.

THERE WERE 260 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 15th February, of which 12 were from cholera, 27 from small-pox, 88 from fever, 30 from bowel complaints, 13 from tetanus, 10 from lung diseases and the rest from other causes. The number of deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races was 17.

MR. MAURICE Dechy, a distinguished member of the Hungarian Geographical Society and Vice-President of the Hungarian Alpine Club, is about to visit the Himalyas for scientific purposes, and the various local Governments have been asked to afford him all facilities and their good offices in carrying out his scientific researches.

WE UNDERSTAND that Lieutenant Brabazon of the 10th Hussars will on the cessation of hostilities return to resume his appointment as Extra Assistant A. D. C. on the staff of His Excellency the Viceroy.

WE ARE informed that the propriety of further extending the Meteorological Department, of adopting a general system of telegraphic report, and of permanently publishing daily weather charts and bulletins is at present under the consideration of Government.

IT IS stated that Messrs. Elliot and Pedler have succeeded in establishing a telegraphic code for the use of the Meteorological Department, the saving thereby effected to the Department being about Rs. 17,000 per annum.

ON THE recommendation of Sir Joseph Hooker a qualified English gardener has been appointed for the Bengal Cinchona Plantations.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has recently addressed the Government of India on the subject of the amelioration of the condition of the wild tribes inhabiting certain parts of the Tanna District in Bombay. The construction of roads proposed with this object has been, for want of funds, found impracticable, but it is suggested that the demarcation of forests which is not attended with similar difficulty, if speedily carried out, would open means of employment to some of the tribes. The assignment to them on special terms and without the power of transfer, of waste lands in the area which the demarcation would probably in some places exclude from the forests, would also it is thought mitigate their present condition.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL E. C. Ross, Resident in the Persian Gulf, has been appointed British Consul General for the Province of Fars, the coasts and islands of the Persian Gulf being within the dominions of Persia.

THERE IS a Charitable Institution at Monghyr, which gives small relief to the blind, the leper, the lame, the old, and others suffering from incurable diseases and unable to work. We have before us the third report of this useful institution. It is chiefly supported by the Railway employes at Jamalpore and Monghyr.

OUR GHATTAL correspondent thus writes to us under date the 14th instant :

I am sorry to let you know that, of late, thefts have become of frequent occurrence in this town. They were never or seldom heard of before. Within the short space of a month and a half some three or four cases have taken place and in none of these has the Police succeeded in tracing the deliquents.

The above lady bears out the report current some 2 months ago that a band of "*Budmashes*" have taken up their quarters in the town. It has caused a great excitement among the townsmen, who, as you can easily imagine, are always under fear of being robbed of their properties. In justice therefore to the tax-payers we hope the Police authorities will take up the matter in right earnest and do all in their power to detect and apprehend the thieves.

I am also told that these *Budmashes* use threatening words and break down doors and windows in order to carry out their evil designs.

THE WORLD has a characteristic article on Sir James Stephen's appointment headed—"how I came to be a Judge." The writer says :

No person doubts that the new judge is a man of remarkable ability, and every one is willing to believe that he may prove an admirable substitute for Mr. Baron Cleasby. What is of

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greater and more general importance is that Sir James Stephen, an accomplished and scientific lawyer, furnishes a splendid example of that superior sycophancy without which under the present *regime*, the highest honours are not to be won. Sir James Stephen has acted the unpaid attache on the public forum to Lord Beaconsfield's Government in England, and to Lord Lytton's Government in India, and he has got his reward.

A WIDOW MARRIAGE under the Civil Marriage Act of 1872 was celebrated at Bhaugulpore on Saturday last the 15th instant. The bridegroom Babu Khetternath Mookerjea, Deputy Magistrate of Maldah, is aged 26, widower, and the bride Sreemutty Benodini Ghosal, widow, aged 15, is daughter of Babu Soshibhusan Mookerjea, Government Pleader, Bhaugulpore. The poor girl had lost her first husband within three weeks of her marriage. We wish the couple joy and happiness.

A LARGE meeting was held at Bombay yesterday at which it was unanimously resolved to send a memorial direct to the Secretary of State protesting against the construction of the Ahmedabad Palanpur section of the Western Rajputana Railway on narrow guage. Two or three petitions had been sent already to the Government of India, but no answer has been vouchsafed.

WE ARE glad to learn that the rains of last week were general throughout Bengal, and have done much good.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that Raja Purnendradeb Roy of Bansbaria has presented this year two silver medals to the two best boys of Patshalas near Bansbaria. If zemindars take interest in the education of their tenantry in this manner, primary education will receive a good impetus.

WE ARE requested to publish the following judgment:

Friday 3rd January. Summons dated 18th December 1878.
Kali Nath Chuckerbutty, *vrs.* 1. Nil Komal Banerjee,
2. Aghore Chunder Banerjee.

CHARGE

I. Criminal intimidation and making use of insulting language on the 17th December 1878, in Calcutta.

II. Further to show cause why the defendants should not enter into a recognizance in the sum of Rs. 200 each to keep the peace towards the complainant for a period of 6 months.

ORDER

The defendants make an apology and undertake not to repeat the language. Warned and discharged.

(Sd.) AMEER ALI,
Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta Northern Division.

We are informed that defendant Nilkomul is Record-keeper, Military Secretary's Office, and that at the bottom of this case is a *zemin ka kazia*, about which a most respectable native gentleman has made to us some bitter complaints. We do not wish to notice the *kazia*, but we hope the Magistrate's warning will have due effect.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Gazetteer of Ulwar. By Major P. W. Powlett, late Settlement Officer of Ulwar. 2. The Affghan Question, Speeches of the Earl of Northbrook in the House of Lords, on the 5th and 10th December, 1878; and memorandum on Viscount Cranbrook's Despatch to Lord Lytton of November 18th, 1878. 3. Aitihasika Rahasya or Essays on the History, Philosophy &c. of Ancient India. Part III. By Ramdas Sen. 4. The *Indian Magazine*, a monthly journal conducted by the Bhowanipore Students' Association and by the Rev. J. P. Ashton, M. A. President of the Association. 5. *Krishitutwa*, a Bengali Monthly Agricultural Journal, Vol. I. No. 2. 6. Life of the late Babu Thakurdas Chuckerbutty. 7. Proceedings of the first annual meeting of the Bahir Simlah Reading Club. 8. The Legal Companion, January 1879, Vol. VII. No. 1. 9. The Saddarshana-Chintanika or Studies in Indian Philosophy, January, 1879 Vol. III. No. 1.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London February 15th.—Consols closed at 96¼, a rise of ⅛ upon previous quotations.

17th.—Advices from the Cape announce that Colonel Pearson, Commandant of Natal, and commanding the centre column is safely established at Ekowe. No hostile Zulus are in Natal. The *Times* has an article this morning urging the simultaneous reduction of British troops and the native army in India.

17th.—General Lord Napier of Magdala has been summond to London and arrived. The Secretary of State for War, in replying to a question, said Government did not intend despatching any Indian troops to the Cape. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said in replying to a question, that the loan of £2,000,000 to the Indian Government will not be proposed until after the Budget is presented, and must be the subject of a special Bill.

18th.—At County Cork Election the Home rule candidate Col. Colthurst was returned by a large majority in place of the deceased member, Mr. M'Carthy Downing. The strike at Liverpool amongst Dock labourers has come to an end.

19th.—In the House of Commons last night, Sir Charles Dilke gave a notice of a resolution condemning the Affghan war.

20th.—The latest news from the Cape is that the column under Colonel Evelyn Wood, of Utrecht Wakkerstroom District, was attacked on the 24th ultimo by a force of 4,000 Zulus. The engagement resulted in victory for our troops, with trifling loss. The enemy were completely scattered. Colonel Wood is now falling back upon Utrecht. The first reinforcements for the Cape have started. The *Times* of this morning again urges a reduction of the armies of Indian Native Princes which, it asserts are wholly out of proportion to their necessities; the acquisition of a satisfactory frontier, according to the article, justifies such a step being taken. It is announced that Lord Napier of Magdala has arrived in London merely to attend Parliament.

19th.—The German Parliament has rejected by a large majority the proposal of Government to prosecute two Socialist Deputies who, after having been expelled, have returned.

12th.—The Army Estimates, published to-day, amount to £5,625,000, showing a decrease of £2,156,250.

St. Petersburgh February 16th.—A Manifesto has been issued by the Czar which ratified the definitive treaty of peace signed on the 8th instant. Orders have been given for the withdrawal of the troops.

20th.—It is stated here that General Kaufmann, Governor-General of Turkestan, has been instructed to decline all propositions that may come from Amir Sher Ali.

Berlin February 18th.—The German Tariff Commission have resolved to admit raw cotton duty free.

Alexandria February 18th.—Discharged officers made an armed demonstration to-day, demanding arrears of pay. The President of the Council of Ministers was wounded and Mr. Rivers Wilson was insulted. The rioters were dispersed by the Military.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 27th Inst. at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Conduct and Insulation of Static Electricity.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Saturday, the 1st March, next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Water Ozone and Nitrogen.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1879.

INDIAN LEGISLATION.

THE correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Government of India on the subject of the revival of the Indian Law Commission, published in the *Gazette of India* for the 15th instant, shews rather a struggle on the part of the Indian Minister to exercise complete control over Indian legislation than an impartial consideration of its needs and difficulties. The idea of reviving the Law Commission originated with Lord Salisbury, the then Secretary of State. His Lordship put the matter in this form to the Government of Lord Northbrook. Assuming the necessity of rapid codification His Lordship wrote: "I think it preferable to entrust to a small body of eminent draftsmen, selected for the purpose, the task of preparing for the consideration of your Legislative Council the remaining branches of the Indian Code. The form in which, if at all, they shall ultimately pass into law will depend, of course, upon the deliberations of the Legislature presided over by you. You will doubtless inform me if any changes of serious moment are contemplated. In order to reserve to Her Majesty the power of exercising, without inconvenience to the general progress of the work, her prerogative of disallowance, in case of important alterations, I shall desire that it be submitted to the Council in a series of comparatively brief Bills." There were three points involved in the proposal of the Secretary of State, 1st necessity of codification, 2nd, the rate of progress in codification, and 3rd, the agency for carrying on the work of codification. All these points were discussed at length in an able and elaborate despatch from Lord Northbrook's Government. On the first point the Government of India wrote:

"It must be remembered that codification cannot be accomplished without change. On some points there is conscious and intentional change, more or less, according to the case. On others there is unintentional change; how much, cannot be known till the new law has been at work for some time. By codification we mean the expression in authoritative writings of law previously to be gathered from traditions and records of a much more flexible and less authoritative character. But it is impossible to give in a few sentences the precise equivalent of a number of traditions and judgments. The moment that is attempted, the language of the Statute becomes the starting-point for fresh controversies as to its precise meaning. And partly from the imperfections of human language; partly because the legislator cannot always save himself from an erroneous view of the true mark; partly because his interpreters are subject to an equal amount of error,—the result is that a good deal of change is introduced without being intended or foreseen.

Now the people of this country do not accept change readily. They have no constitutional machinery for making their sentiments known, so that we may be long in finding out how they are affected by changes in laws; but they are more or less unsettled by every change, and if the change happens to be an important one, the unsettlement is lasting. It is therefore more prudent not to make many changes simultaneously, because the inevitable disturbances resulting from each may be too much in the aggregate; and also because it is desirable to know something of the working of one before bringing on another. Indeed, in our judgement, India is not the country into which any large body of law, either actually or virtually new, can prudently be introduced, except slowly and cautiously."

We entirely concur in the above. The people of this country are conservative in their ideas and thoughts. A continual change of laws tends only to create confusion and foster litigation. In fact the multiplication of laws opens new holes and crevices, through which the litigious seek to gratify their nefarious ends, and the weak and the innocent suffer. Then in India the complaint is not so much that the laws are bad as that the administration of the laws is bad and unsatisfactory. This point was very forcibly put in the despatch of the Government of India. Thus:

Then we have to consider those who administer the law. It must always be borne in mind with how small a staff of officials the business of this country is conducted. We are disposed to think that our administration of the law we have is a matter in which we are considerably more deficient than in the substance of the law itself, or in the expression of it. It is true that the labour of the Judges may ultimately be lightened by codification, and if the Codes be well framed, certainly will be so. But for a considerable time the acquisition of the new law imposes much additional labour on the Judge. This was brought to our notice in the year 1872, when great energy and ability were displayed in legislation, and a large body of new law was added to the Statute-book. We do not doubt the benefit ultimately accruing even to the Judges from these new laws; but the burden of learning them so as to be able to apply them with promptitude and accuracy has undoubtedly been great. And while the Judge is learning his work, there is risk of erroneous decisions, which again necessitate fresh legislation.

With regard to the second point we need only say, make no haste but good speed. Restless activity in legislation is the greatest misfortune, which can happen to this country, particularly when that work is practically carried on by aliens. As Lord Cranbrook, the present Secretary of State says, "a rapidity of execution is much less important than circumspection and thorough consideration." As to the third point, the agency which should perform the work of codification, Lord Northbrook's Government was of opinion that "if a permanent body at home is appointed for the purpose, it will lead either to inconvenient pressure on the Government of India, or to waste of power by producing work at a time when it is not wanted, or to both." Again:

"Waste of power is waste of money, and if eminent draftsmen are employed to frame laws, they must be handsomely paid for it. In our view, we should spend money to more advantage by seeking assistance when we want it. Drafts prepared in England and sent out to us to be kept till the time arrives at which the Government of India thinks it expedient to pass them would almost inevitably require to be wholly or partially redrawn."

Further:

During the last fifteen years Indian Law has diverged more and more from English Law; and unless the draftsmen employed are familiar with Indian Law or work immediately under those who are so, they will never be able to adapt their drafts to the existing system. In drawing a new law, the most essential part of the draftsman's art is to make it fit on to the law with which it comes into contact; and unless that law is thoroughly engrained into the draftsman's mind, or unless his work is constantly supervised by some one who has his mind so furnished, inconsistencies and mistakes are sure to occur. This consideration again points to the inference that the best

machinery is to be found in a single draftsman in India either possessed of the requisite knowledge or working under those who have it.

Thus wrote the Government of Lord Northbrook, and we ought to feel grateful to his Lordship for so resolutely setting his face against constant changes in legislation in the name of codification. The question of the agency for codification is quite secondary compared with the necessity or expediency of it. Lord Salisbury's sole object, it would seem, was to keep the strings of legislatien in his own hands, but Lord Northbrook's Government justly resented that attempt. Lord Lytton's Government has made a compromise. The present Government of India is of opinion that "a Commission should be appointed to complete the condification of the Substantive Law of this country and to consider such other matters in relation to the laws of India as may be referred to it by the Government; but that it should act in India under the instructions of the Governor General in Council, and report to the same authority." The present Secretary of State has accepted this proposal. His Lordship says: "I share the opinion which appears to have been entertained by my predecessor, that it is very doubtful whether Parliament intended that the preparation of an Indian Code should be exclusively confided to the Law Member of Council, however great his ability and energy, and the examination of draft laws of that description exclusively entrusted to your Council for making Laws and Regulations, however well that body may be constituted for purposes of current legislation." Accordingly His Lordship has sanctioned the appointment of a temporary Law Commission in India, composed of Mr. Whitely Stokes, Mr. Justice Turner, and Mr. Justice Raymond West. But Lord Cranbrook seems to be fully alive to the mischief of haste in codification. He says: "I am again strongly opposed to any scheme for compressing the completion of the Civil Code within a period of five years, or any other definite time. Any such attempt will tend to produce haste and consequent imperfection in an undertaking which, before all things, requires deliberate care. The branches of law which remain to be codified are, on the whole, more complex than those which have been already declared in chapters of the Code, and the difficulties of harmonizing them with the feelings and usages of the people, of which, as you justly observe, knowledge is essential to the codifier, will be unusually great." If this is the opinion of Lord Cranbrook, and he is quite right in what he says, we are surprised that His Lordship has sanctioned the appointment of a Law Commission for six months.

It is observable that the main question has been entirely lost sight of in the correspondence, *viz.*, whether Indian legislation should be carried on in India or in England, and if in this country whether the present constitution of the Indian legislature is such as to secure efficiency. Lord Cranbrook admits that he does not like to leave the work of codification to the idyosyncracies of one man, the Law Member, and yet he practically leaves the general work of legislation to him, for after all the latter is the soul of the Legislative Council. In our opinion if the object be to improve the machinery of legislation, the basis of the Legislative Council ought to be widened, the non-official element greatly strengthened, and the legal element sufficiently represented in it.

INDIA FOR MANCHESTER.

THE dissolution of Parliament is approaching, and the Ministry, it is said, is looking out for strength on all sides. Of the various interests, which Lord Beaconsfield wishes to conciliate, Lancashire seems to be the most powerful. For the last four years Lord Salisbury had been coquetting with Manchester, and Lord Cranbrook has been following the cue of his predecessor. The pressure of the Ministry has reached the Viceroy in India, and Lord Lytton has appointed a Committee to consider the question of reducing the cotton duties in the guise of revising the tariff. At this juncture Mr. Fawcett's new work on *Free Trade and Protection* is most welcome. A contemporary justly considers him at the present moment the leader of the Free Trade Party in England. Mr. Fawcett argues that "as within the last few years, many large cotton mills have been erected in Bombay; and as some of the cotton goods which are imported into India, are of the same kind as the goods which are manufactured in these mills, it is evident that the Bombay manufacturers enjoy a protection of 5 per cent. on all the products they make, which are similar in character to those imported." Mr. Fawcett is a high economic authority, and we must bow to his opinion on an economic question. But if the import duty on cotton goods gives protection to the Indian manufacturer, there are other circumstances which detract from this advantage to them. The cost of machinery, skill supervision, freight and other charges go far to counterbalance this advantage. As regards the consumers the duty of 5 per cent. does not press upon them in the least. Indeed, cotton goods owing to increased competition have become much cheaper now than they were before, and they do not in the least feel the tax. In fact they hardly know that the cotton goods they use are taxed at all. But as we have repeatedly said the import duty is maintained not for protection of indigenous manufacture but for revenue. As Mr. Laing, whilst Finance Minister of India, remarked:

"Free-trade does not mean that there shall be no taxation, but that taxes shall be levied solely with a view to revenue, and not partly for revenue and partly for protection.

That every customs duty on an imported article should have a corresponding excise duty on similar articles produced at home has, therefore, become an axiom; and it only admits of one exception—where the amount of import duty is so moderate that it does not seriously affect trade, while it makes it obviously inexpedient to establish an excise machinery for the sake of levying a trifling duty.

This is the case with regard to corn in England, where a duty of 1*s.* a quarter equal to 5 per cent. on the cheaper sorts of foreign grain is retained; and it is precisely our case with regard to piece goods.

We cannot dispense with customs duties on our imports generally; and, while this is the case, no reasonable man can object to our retaining an old accustomed duty of 5 per cent. on manufactured goods."

After quoting the above observations the Government of India in its Tariff Resolution of 1875 remarked:

"The Government of India are still of opinion that a duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, upon cotton goods, cannot practically operate as a protection to native manufacture.

The Government fully admit the advantage that would be derived to the people from a reduction in the cost of their clothing; but, as has been already said financial considerations will not admit of so large a sacrifice as that of the duty on cotton goods. There are other items of customs, moreover, particularly the export duty upon sugar by land, which in regard to the general interests of the people of India, demand prior consideration."

And this is exactly the point at issue. The present import duty of 5 per cent. is no protection to the Indian manufacturer, while it yields an amount of revenue, which cannot be replaced by any other tax without grievous oppression to the people. We are glad to observe that Mr. Fawcett takes the same view:

"The most equitable system of taxation which it is possible to devise for one country, may be altogether unsuited to other countries. Many financiers of authority who consider that the income-tax ought to be permanently maintained in England, are of opinion that in consequence of the many abuses which are inseparably associated with the collection of the income-tax in India, nothing but extreme necessity could justify its re-imposition in that country. In deciding whether the duties now imposed on cotton goods imported into India, ought at once to be repealed, it is of the first importance to bear in mind the peculiar and critical position of Indian finance. The great mass of the people of that country are so poor, and live with such extreme frugality, that with the exception of salt, there is no article of general consumption which it is possible to tax; and the duty on salt has been strained to its utmost point, being one of the heaviest duties ever imposed on a first necessary of life. As, therefore, there remains no article of general consumption which can be taxed, it is obvious that the resources of taxation are extremely small in India; for it is scarcely necessary to remark that the taxation which is most productive is that which is levied on some article in universal use, to which therefore the whole nation has to contribute. In recent years, the expenditure in India has steadily and surely increased; her revenue has advanced far more slowly; frequently recurring deficits have had to be met by borrowing; and her debt has been constantly augmented. Her financial position has been still further embarrassed by the recurrence within the last eleven years of no less than four famines, the cost of the last two of these famines reaching the sum of 16,000,000*l.* Under these circumstances no existing source of revenue can with prudence be surrendered; and therefore the proposal to abolish the existing import duties on cotton goods cannot be dissociated from the question. What new taxation is to be imposed to fill the void in the revenue which the repeal of these import duties would create? Hitherto those representatives of the English manufacturing interests who so strongly condemn these duties, have not recommended any other taxation to take their place, and no new tax has been suggested which would not be either far more burdensome, or far more disliked by the people of India themselves. If by greater economy or by better administration, the expenditure of India were reduced, a sufficient surplus might be provided to enable these import duties to be repealed. But this greater economy and better administration ought to be ensured before the revenue which these duties yield is relinquished.

Many of those who have taken a prominent part in advocating the repeal of these cotton duties, have undoubtedly been prompted by a sincere dislike to England being either directly or indirectly concerned with the maintenance of any form of protection. In urging, however, the immediate repeal of this protective duty, it should be remembered that many English colonies maintain a system of protection far more extended and far more onerous in its character. If no attempt is made to interfere with the colonies, while it is insisted on the part of England, regardless of the wishes of the Indian people, that a particular duty which is imposed in that country shall be repealed, the impression will not unnaturally be produced that India is unfairly treated, and that she is sacrificed to the interests of English manufacturers. Such a feeling, no doubt, already exists in India, and it has been much intensified by the manner in which the question of the repeal of those duties has been advocated in England. The subject is habitually treated from the English rather than from the Indian point of view.

The injury which is done to English trade by a restrictive duty is brought prominently to the foreground, and comparatively little notice is taken of the most cogent objection to be urged against this and every protective tax;—that it takes from the people on whom it is imposed an amount which far exceeds that which it yields to the revenue of the State. In the appeals that are so often made that the Indian cotton duties should be abolished, in order that England may consistently maintain her adherence to the principle of free trade the mistake, which may be regarded as the cardinal error of the protective system, is not unfrequently committed:—The interest of the manufacturers, as producers, is considered; the interest of the people, as consumers, is ignored."

The modern apostle of Free Trade in England advocates the retention of the import duty not for protection but for revenue, but the Ministry evidently care more for the interests of Manchester than for those of India. India is groaning under taxation. Within the last seven years there has been additional taxation to the extent of about five millions, and further addition to it for the sake of filling the pockets of the cotton lords of Manchester would be simply monstrous. India is now compelled to make a sacrifice of from three to four millions of pounds annually by way of loss for exchange, and the Government is at its wits' end to make up this loss, and yet it has been called upon to make a further sacrifice for the sake of Manchester. It is admitted on all hands that the surrender of revenue by the repeal of the import duty cannot be met by reduction of expenditure; there must be fresh taxation, and such taxation is doubly objectionable. In the first place the people as we have already observed are harassed with taxes, and the rise in the price of provisions has greatly added to their sufferings. In four provinces the people have just emerged from the horrors of a terrible scarcity and famine. Their means may be measured by the fact that the failure of a single season's rains is enough to doom millions to starvation and death. And yet these poor and helpless people are to be burdened with further taxation for the sake of helping the English Ministry to retain the good will of Manchester? The other objection is equally serious. The import duty, whatever it is, is a tax on the consumers; it is not felt because it is indirect; but if it be repealed, then some direct tax must be levied upon the people, and the evils of direct taxation in this country are notorious. The working of the License tax shews what a fearful engine of oppression it has proved. Complaints reach us from all parts of the country, and however anxious the Government may be to mitigate hardship and oppression, it must work with the machinery at its disposal. To multiply direct taxes would be to multiply engines of oppression. We therefore beseech Lord Lytton to consider the gravity of the situation which the Manchester agitation against the cotton duties implies. We hope his Lordship will follow the noble example of his predecessor and tell these self-seeking agitators that India must be governed for the good of India.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE last Presidential Address at the Bengal Chamber of Commerce possesses more than an ordinary interest. Mr. George Yule, the President, at the last half-yearly meeting of the Chamber, reviewed the state of commerce in this country and the working of the laws and agencies, which influence its course. The address has two merits—it is thoughtful and outspoken. We have time and space for a cursory notice of some of the leading points only. Referring to the working of the License tax in Calcutta, Mr. Yule said: "As

an illustration of the heedless manner in which the assessment was made, I may state that in Calcutta there were 1,519 petitions of objection disposed of up to 31st December last. Of these 612 were in the first grade of Rs. 500. Upon appeal only 14 of these were upheld. Sixty-four of the petitioners were found to be so poor as to be wholly exempted, and the rest were reduced to lower grades. Out of the total number of 1,519 petitions only 137 were upheld. The cost of appealing was itself an onerous tax, and it is little to be wondered at that the complaints were both loud and deep. It is perhaps to be regretted that the time which was spent in connection with the Vernacular Press Act was not devoted to framing judicious rules for assessing the people under the License Act. The license notices had a wider circulation than the native newspapers, and, owing to the manner of their distribution, were much more likely to generate sentiments of disloyalty." Mr. Yule is quite right. One case of oppression, which goes deep into the hearts of the people, does more mischief than ten thousand seditious articles in the vernacular papers, which few read and still fewer care for. In speaking of the Port Trust, for the good management of which Mr. Yule gave due credit to the Commissioners, he was of opinion that it had proved very expensive, and that the pressure upon the commercial classes had been very heavy. After giving the history of the Port Commission, their works, their financial operations and the bearing of the latter upon commerce, he remarked: "Now a merchant or a ship-owner with these facts and figures in his mind, walking round these spacious sheds and upon these splendid jetties, with their railed inclosures, and along that fine line of wharves, must feel that they all partake of a monumental character; for he will think of some of his old capital and young profits that lie entombed within them; and if he feel an interest and satisfaction in all he sees, in the neatness and order which everywhere prevail, his satisfaction and interest will be like that which one experiences in loitering through the avenues of a fine cemetery." This is strong language, but if the merchant's profits lie buried in the jetties and wharves he has a right to complain. The question is—have the works of the Port Commissioners been unproductive to him? We cannot answer in the affirmative. We wish Mr. Yule had noticed the loss which the native merchants and traders have suffered in consequence of heavy port charges. The *quid pro quo* to them has not certainly been sufficient for the amount they contribute in the shape of port dues or tolls. As to the management of "Port Proper" Mr. Yule added, "while we admit the management, has been such as, upon the whole, to satisfy the most captious critic, our complaint is that we have not derived the full benefit of the good management, and that, so far as the trading interests are concerned, up to this time the management might just as well have been bad as good." With regard to the management of that portion of the port, which is under the management of Government, that is to say from Garden Reach downwards, Mr. Yule said:

One of your late Presidents Mr. Bullen Smith, who was a member of a Committee appointed to investigate the accounts, said respecting them; "This unfortunate Port Fund seems to have been a sort of scapegoat of the Bankshall. How much it was overcharged, or how much short it was credited (and we found flagrant instances of both) no one seems to have known, and no one seems to have cared; and thus it has been that year by year a balance has been carried to its debit, but with so little care and discrimination that the accounts are totally unreliable."

There seems to be some reason for believing that this unsatisfactory condition of affairs still continues, and our suspicions are strengthened, perhaps exaggerated by the secrecy in which working of the department appears to be purposely shrouded.

The Act under which this part of the port and port approach is worked was passed in 1875, and there is the extraordinary provision that the accounts shall not, or need not, be published. This provision is stated in nine words constituting a minor clause of a long sentence in one of the longest sections of the Act, and is so dexterously inserted that little doubt is left on the mind, that it was placed there at the instances of some one who had some special reason for concealing the working of the department from the intrusive gaze of the public. What can be the reason for this exceptional secrecy? Is it that some account still needed into which the mistakes of some other department may be poured and hidden from the view of the Council and public? Is the account still a scapegoat on which the blunders of the Dockyard may be sent away into the wilderness of the Account-General's office, never more to be seen? I expected to have been able to tell you something at this meeting of the working of this part of the port, but I cannot. I addressed a letter to the department asking whether I could see the accounts, and, if so, where; but it politely declines to let me see them, and refers me to the clause I have mentioned. It cannot be that this concealment of accounts is known to, and approved of, by the present Government—I mean the Bengal Government; for the act is one of its creating. The popularity of the Bengal Government, as at present constituted rests, I believe, mainly on the conviction in the public mind that it is striving to root up abuses; to let dayinght into every dark corner; to do good and substantial work in a frank and honest way. We are accordingly addressing the Government direct on the question of these accounts in the full hope that the thoroughness of purpose which is characterising all their other work, will not halt and strain at this particular point.

The determination with which the European merchants protect their own interests ought to be a lesson to our countrymen.

The Chamber of Commerce is opposed to the Trades' Association on the question of the value-payable parcel system. We have only one word to say in reply to Mr. Yule—it is this that it is no business of Government to compete with the private trader in the supply of articles for private consumption. The position which the Government has assumed is therefore radically wrong. Mr. Yule thus alluded to the general depression of trade:

Whatever department of industry we look at, whether it be agriculture, or iron, or coal or clothing or shipping,—all are passing and I hope passing through a time of severe depression. The present dullness is more widespread and general than, any of those similar periodic visitations of former days. And another special characteristic of it is the absence of panic, especially in the monetary circle. There is no crisis and no symptom of any. There have been severe local disturbances but no general collapse of confidence. On previous occasions from 1793, through the short interlude ending 1797, on to the crisis of 1825, 1837, 1847, 1857, and 1866, all went merrily until the failure of a leading house revealed the rottenness under the shell of prosperity. But from the inflation of 1870-4, we have slid quietly down into the hollow with a few heavy lurches to remind us that we were on descent. Profits have gradually gone and been turned into losses, and I know of no industry that can be pointed to as an exception either in the British dominions or in any of the other commercial nations of the world. And what may seem strange to those weak-kneed free traders, who always begin to doubt free trade principles when they fail to prevent, or correct all the untoward results of the follies and recklessness which men exhibit in times of commercial excitements is that, those countries who protect native industry the most were the first to suffer, and have suffered the most in those very industries which were most protected.

The chief cause of the depression of trade in India appears to me to lie on the surface. Two successive years of failure of our cotton and cereal crops in large districts of the country sufficiently account for the greater part of the distress which prevails. When food is double its normal price, business must be stagnant. There are no surplus stocks to export in payment of commodities that may be wanted from other countries and that portion of the labouring population which derives no compensating benefit from the high price of food, has absolutely nothing to spare from its scanty income to purchase any article of secondary necessity or comfort.

Mr. Yule's remarks were pertinent and generally just. But he made no allusion to over-trading, deception, and low commercial morality, and consequent shock to credit and commercial prospects, which have greatly aggravated the evils complained of. Then we expected that he would say something about Manchester's selfish agitation against the cotton duty. He was ominously silent on this vitally important question. He dwelt on the Factory Bill, but did not say one word about the proposed repeal of the import duty. He condemned the License tax, but did not say how much would the evil be intensified if direct taxation be increased in order to recoup the loss in consequence of the repeal of such an indirect tax as the import duty. This omission is much to be regretted.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND IN ASIA.

THE ARTICLE in the last *Quarterly Review* contains much that is worth our attentive consideration. The writer has evidently studied carefully the whole Russo-English question in Asia. He thus describes the position of Russia in Asia: "From her position, indeed, crowning the heights of the Soghanli-Dagh and backed by the formidable fortress of Kars, she not only commands the high road leading from Constantinople to Persia, along which now passes the caravan traffic of Asia, and which probably marks the track of the great international railway of the future, that is destined to link the west with the east—but she also threatens the rich country below the Taurus, stretching in one direction to the Mediterranean, and in the other to the Persian Gulf, and she further completely dominates the Persian frontier, and presses with a crushing weight on the neighbouring province of Azerbijan. But her chief gain is, probably, to be found in her acquisition of the sea board of Lazistan. There, it is not too much to say that the cession of the port of Batoum has inaugurated a new era of the Russian power and prosperity." Again: "On the east coast of the Caspian Sea, the increase of the Russian territory has been far greater in superficial extent than on the east coast of the Black Sea, and it has also more immediately affected the interests of India, inasmuch as the settlements of Russia in this region—communicating as they do directly with the head-quarters of the army of the Caucasus in Georgia and with the various national arsenals and establishments on the Volga—constitute the true military base for all operations to the eastward." But the most important point is the point of contact between Russia and Englaud on the plains of Asia. The *Reviewer* remarks:

Proceeding eastward, it becomes more difficult to gauge the exact rate of advance of the Russian frontier, since, in the region between the Caspian and the Oxus, the line of territorial demarcation is at present undetermined, Persia asserting as her boundary, not the Atreck itself, which is the limit claimed by Russia, but the watershed between the Atreck and the desert, while the Turcoman inhabitants of the steppe are still making a gallant, though it is to be feared an ineffectual, struggle for independence. Beyond the Oxus, however, we can measure the encroachments of Russia with some precision. Mashekli, for instance, the frontier post of Russia on the Oxus, as defined by the treaty with Bokhara of 1873, is above 1,000 miles from the Orenburg line which formed her boundry in 1836, while the southern boundry of the Samarcand district is at least 200 miles still nearer to India, and the extreme limit of the Kokand territory on the Pamir plateau is again 100 miles further to the south of Samarcand: so that the Russian frontier at the present day, as laid down in the latest official map, is actually not more than 2½ degrees, or about 170 miles, from the Kashmir border at the passes of Ishkaman and Darkut. It may seem a sufficient reply to this charge of systematic Russian encroachment, to point out that during the same interval of time our own Indian frontier has been advanced, either directly or through the agency of our great feudatory, the Maharajah of Kashmir, from the Sutlej to the passes opening on the valley of the Oxus, a distance not much inferior to that which intervenes between the Orenburg line and southern Pamir. But the parallel thus sought to be established altogether fails, when it is remembered that our annexation of the Punjab, and consequent control over Kashmir, was occasioned by the gratuitous Sikh invasion of India, whereas, in the case of the Russian advance, so far from the Kirghiz, or Uzbegs, or Turcomans having provoked hostilities by an invasion of Russian territory, they stood entirely on the defensive, and on two notable occasions, firstly, when the Russians crossed the Kirghis steppe to the Jaxartes, in 1847-48, and again when they sent an expeditionary force across the Caspian to Krasnovodsk in 1869, the movement was as thoroughly aggressive in character, and *filibustering* in all its details, as the American invasions of Texas and California.

It is not our object to question the territorial advance made by Russia and England in Asia. It is enough for our purpose to indicate the proximity between England and Russia in Central Asia. It will be seen from the accounts of the *Reviewer* that the Russian Bear is in the ascendant in the north, east and centre of Asia. Hence it was that Lord Beaconsfield was anxious to bring him to bay, and we must confess that he has proved successful. But the more we study this question of Russian and English progress in Asia, the more are we convinced that the great Jew is working out his theory that England was now more an Asiatic than a European Power. His object is to outmatch if he can the Muscovite in his plans of swallowing up the Asiatic continent. If the Asiatics were the only opponents of Russia she would not care much, but in the present position of her finances she cannot afford to quarrel with

such a powerful and wealthy European power as England. Hence we believe the present moderation of her aspirations. But we are afraid a day will come when the two Powers will have to draw their swords on the plains of Asia. We do not wish for that day, but looking to the political outlook we cannot conceal the thought that the evil day is only postponed.

THE BOMBAY IRRIGATION BILL.

THE people of Bombay seem to be strongly opposed to the Irrigation Bill, which has been lately introduced in the local Legislative Council. They have good reasons for this opposition. The leading feature of this Bill are *forced labour* and *a compulsory water-rate*. We are surprised that notwithstanding the emphatic condemnation of both these principles by the Home Government, when the Duke of Argyll was Secretary of State, the Indian Government should permit the introduction of a measure based on those obnoxious principles. The *Indu-Prokash* of Bombay, which writes sensibly, though warmly, on the subject, regrets that there is but one non-official native member on the Select Committee, to which the Bombay Irrigation Bill has been referred. Our contemporary says: "We have much confidence in the independence of this member and have every hope that he will try to defend the interests of the public, when it is sought to infringe them by the introduction in this Presidency of a measure, which has proved a failure in Northern India and which the Bengal Government, after having entertained some idea of having it for Bengal, has since considered it proper to abandon as unjust. But the Hon. Mr. Murarjee will, even if he opposes the Bill, be in a hopeless minority whether in the Select Committee or when the Bill comes before the Council from the Select Committee." But that is the lot of all non-official native members of all the Legislative Councils of India; they form a standing minority, but that is no reason that they should not do their duties manfully and fearlessly. They may fail, but let them fail; they will nevertheless have the conscious satisfaction of having done their best and the community will have the satisfaction of knowing that their representatives have been true to themselves and to their country. The ulterior responsibility rests with the Government.

The *Indu-Prokash* says that the irrigation works have not for the most part answered in other parts of India. Two years ago a Bengal Civilian published a pamphlet entitled *Irrigation and Indian Deficit*. He brought his figures down to the year 1870-71, which we give below:

Name of work.	Total outlay on construction up to end of 1870-71.	Total income realized during 1871-72.	Deduct charges for 1871-72.			Net surplus deficit.
			Cost of maintenance including establishment.	Interest charges at 4½ per cent.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ganges Canal ...	2418534	182907	91360	109339	200699	17193
Eastern Jumna Canal ...	197312	51026	19880	8915	28795	22231
Doon Canal ...	54908	4714	2628	2479	5107	—393
Rohilkund Canals ...	93362	3254	7608	2351	9959	9705
					Net—	53659

The above statement shows that on these four schemes, which were then the only complete ones in the North Western Provinces, there had, up to the end of 1870-71, been expended nearly 2 millions, that the interest and maintenance charges against revenue for 1871-72 were £244,560, and that these charges were covered by the revenue, with the exception of £2,659. The writer, however, holds that deducting the Eastern Jumna Canal, which was a legacy of the Mahomedan Government, and which is the most productive, the deficit for the year would have been just £25,000. The writer next shews the return of Punjab irrigation works. He would omit from calculation the Western Jumna Canal, which is an old Mahomedan work, re-opened and in some places re-aligned by Government. This canal shows a net surplus revenue of £60,710, after payment of 5 per cent. interest on its capital and maintenance charges, which is simply owing to the fact that our Government found it ready made, and consequently had to incur a comparatively small capital outlay on it. The other canals in the Punjab shew the following results:

Name of Work.	Total outlay on construction up to end of 1870-71.	Total income realized during 1871-72.	Deduct charges in 1871-72.			Deficit.
			Cost of maintenance including establishment.	Interest on capital at 5 per cent.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bari Doab Canal ...	1239522	71540	31934	62976	94910	23370
Lower Sutlej and Chenab (Inundation) Canals. ...	11290	555	3687	564	4251	3696
Upper Sutlej and Chenab (Inundation) Canals. ...	56454	5648	10747	2823	13570	8022
Indus (Inundation) Canals. ...	33514	9612	14887	1926	16763	7151
Minor Irrigation Works. ...	18443	897	1474	922	2396	699
Total. ...	1384223	88152	.....	.....	131809	43738

The deficits thus amount to £43,738. The writer estimates the aggregate annual loss upon the irrigation works in the North Western Provinces, the Punjab and Bengal at £314,000. How is this loss to be made good? The writer is of opinion that the voluntary system has failed and that the only remedy lies in a compulsory rate. But would a general compulsory rate be just? Do all parts of the country stand in equal need of artificial supply of water, and if not, would it not be the height of injustice to doom them all alike to one invariable compulsory rate? The author of the pamphlet under notice himself says: "Backergunge is a fertile district at the north-east of the Bay of Bengal where famine and drought are unknown and can scarcely be conceived to be a possibility. It annually exports a large amount of rice which, were other districts not artificially protected from scarcity, would frequently command largely enhanced prices. The people of that district are not only prevented from thus increasing their wealth, but are actually required to subscribe towards paying for the means taken to effect that prevention." And the same remark applies to parts of Bombay similarly situate. The *Indu Prokash* denies that there is necessity for irrigation works in Bombay. Our contemporary writes:

"We shall be told that if Irrigation Works, as far as they exist in Bengal, have failed, they have succeeded, in the Punjab but it is no wonder that they should succeed in the latter province where the rainfall is far less than either here or in Bengal. Our case does not differ much in this respect from that of Bengal and if an Irrigation Bill cannot do for the latter, we fail to see why it should do for the former. The thing is the local Government is striving hard to provide external remedies for the Ryot's proverty and it is determined to try one and all of them. The money-lender is to be stamped out of existence; irrigation works are to be opened; the Ryot's prosperity under the latter is yet problematic; experience is against it; whereas the real source of danger is left to itself and very carefully shuffled—the oppressive nature of heavy land assessments, against which the Deccan Riots' Commissioners have said so much. How long our Government is to carry on its policy of experimenting it is difficult to say but as far as the intended experiment of irrigation is concerned, there are proofs enough to show that it would add to the grievances of the Ryot. We can only beg of Sir Richard Temple to have a little patience in regard to it. Now that both the country and the Select Committee of the House of Commons have condemned the projects of irrigations we anxiously await to know what opinions the Famine Commission has formed on the subject."

We would humbly advise Sir Richard Temple to desist in this scheme of legislation. His Excellency doubtless means well, but he should remember what Mr. Fawcett truly says that "a more serious error could scarcely be committed than to impose taxation upon a people contrary to their sentiments and feelings." If the Irrigation works will really prove beneficial to the people, why not let them exercise their own judgment and take the water if they want it? But why push it down their throats as it were, whether they will or no? The Indian ryot is not a child; he well understands his own interests, and if he finds that irrigation pays him, he will not throw it away. But to force him to accept it would be an act of unmitigated despotism.

EAST BENGAL ON THE RENT BILL.

WE ARE glad to observe that East Bengal has spoken out regarding the Rent Bill. The East Bengal Landlolders' Association have submitted a memorial to the Bengal Council on the subject, a copy of which has been forwarded to us. The memorial has been ably and sensibly drawn up. The memorialists have for purposes of their representation divided the Bill into three parts, viz., (a) Summary procedure for the speedy realization of rent. (b) Transfer of the occupancy tenure. (c) Sub-letting of the occupancy tenure. The memorialists take the following objections to the proposed summary procedure:

This procedure would tend to prolong the trial of the suit, as the Court might demand the production of witnesses on whose evidence might greatly depend the admissibility or non-admissibility of the claim. The Court might also from pressure of the other important duties have frequently to postpone the examination of *Jama Wasil Bakee* or other papers filed by the plaintiff. After the entertainment of the plaint the necessary summons would be issued to the defendant who would be allowed fourteen days' time within which he would have to appear and obtain leave to defend. But the plaintiff would have to be on the *qui vive* from the day his plaint was admitted and would have to retain his pleader for all those fourteen days—it being uncertain when the defendant will appear in Court. In case the defendant does not put in an appearance, it is not clear from the present Bill whether the plaintiff shall be entitled to an *exparte* decree without adducing further evidence. After the defendant has put in an appearance, it is clear that there will be another summary inquiry as to whether he has any good defence to make or not. During this inquiry it will be necessary for the plaintiff to be present in order to rebut the allegations of the defendant by cross-examining him or in any other way permitted by the Court. Then after the defendant has been allowed to enter into his defence, the same examination of witnesses on the plaintiff's side and their cross-examination by the defendant's pleader will have to be gone through, together with the examination of such evidence as the defendant may have to adduce. Such a procedure will be tedious and costly to both plaintiff and defendant. Your humble memorialists therefore under the circumstances stated above take the liberty to suggest that the summons to the defendant be issued when the plaint is filed, without taking any evidence and a day be fixed (which shall not be later than 30 days from the date of filing of the plaint) for the final hearing of the suit.

We need not notice points of detail, with regard to which some useful suggestions have been made in the memorial. The memorialists are opposed to the recoguition of the transferability of the occupancy tenure. They thus state their objections;

Istly. It would be a serious injustice to the Zemindar. Act X of 1859 gave a very important position to the ryots by the bestowal of the right of occupancy. The right of holding lands without liability to ejectment is the more important of the two rights that constitute *Putnee* and *Mirashi* rights; the other being freedom from liability to enhancement. These rights when granted by Zemindars fetch large prices. When therefore the right of occupancy was granted wholesale by the Legislature in 1859 with retrospective effect, it was an encroachment on the just rights of the Zemindars. The Permanent Settlement gave the Zemindars the right of holding lands on a fixed jummah and subject to that fixed jummah all future profits from the land were absolutely made over to them. The condition of always paying a fixed jummah without abatement from any cause whatever (not even excepting total failure of crops by drought or inundation) proved so hard on those with whom the settlement was made that most of them were sold out in the course of a few years. Most landed estates have changed hands since and the present landholders have bought Zemindaries by the payment of their full market value relying for profit on the terms of the settlement made by Government. Your Memorialists have there-

fore certainly a right to complain when it is now proposed to confer who has the right of transfer of the occupancy tenure (to the full market value of which the ryot will be entitled) without any compensation being given to the Zemindars.

2ndly. The occupancy ryot always pays less than the market or competitive rate of rent to which all new ryots are liable. In addition to this he will be entitled to any excess that may be left after paying off his liabilities when a sale for default takes place. The landholder is thus deprived of this excess which he may fairly claim for having so long been deprived of the market rate of rent from the occupancy ryot.

3rdly. The landholder will have no chance afforded him of resuming direct possession of the land. Once let a tenure be sold, it may pass from one hand to another without the remotest chance being left for its reversion to the landholder. Even the chances that now exist viz, when a ryot relinquishes his holding or betakes himself to some other more profitable employment, will not then be in existence.

4thly. It would tend to transfer the tenant right from *bonafide* cultivators to money-lenders or other non-cultivating classes. The right of transfer, your memorialists beg to submit, will tend to defeat the very object with which the right of occupancy was created. When the right of occupancy was proposed it was further from the intention of the Government that the holding of the actual cultivator should pass into the hands of noncultivating classes. The same intention has been reiterated with emphasis by the mover of the Bill and with that view the Bill provides that the transferee should be a genuine cultivating ryot. But your memorialists doubt whether this object will be gained, for, the definition of the occupancy ryot as contained in Sec. 11 materially differs from that contained in Act X of 1859 and in Act VIII of 1869 (B. C.) Though Government is anxious to keep the tenant right confined to the cultivating class, the introduction of the clause "by means of hired labor" will afford sufficient room to bring within its scope any man who has the means of purchasing a tenure. It is well known to your Honor how legal technicalities defeat in many instances the main object of the Legislature. The clause "by means of hired labor" will give rise to innumerable technical difficulties and bring the quibbling propensities of lawyers into full play, thus frustrating the present object of the Legislature. Your Memorialists would therefore pray that the definition of the occupancy ryot as contained in the previous Acts be allowed to remain unaltered and that Sec. 12 be entirely omitted from the Bill.

5thly. It would open a new channel to rival zemindars for quarrelling with each other. A landlord might if he chose harass his rival by taking up some occupancy tenures from the tenant of the latter and thus cause him inconceivable annoyance and trouble. A strong and powerful landlord could convert this into an engine of unbearable oppression against his weaker neighbours. *Benami* purchases will very often take place and the difficulty of distinguishing such cases will be insuperable. Your memorialists further beg to observe that in case a tenant makes a private sale of his occupancy tenure without previously paying the arrears of rent due by him to his landlord, the latter would find it very difficult to realize his dues from the purchaser, especially if he be a litigious person or be backed by a rival landlord of wealth and position.

6thly. It is said that the first great advantage to the ryot will be that it will enable him to raise loans on easier terms But even on this point opinions differ very much among those who have experience of the state of things in the mofussil. But granting however, that such is likely to be the case, a loan on easier terms could be raised only by the hypothecation of the tenure to the Mahajun. Your memorialists are unable to accept the theory on which the justification of the measure is founded, viz, that the money so raised would be spent in improving the condition of the land from which he could be sold out at any moment. The zemindar's interest in the land is much more permanent and inalienable than that of the ryot, even were the right of transfer conferred on him. An occupancy ryot can throw up his holding at any moment if it does not prove profitable to him, but the zemindar's interest is permanent. Hence the zemindar is not only directly interested in keeping his estate in an efficient condition but he alone is capable of incurring the outlay necessary for such improvements. When artificial means are employed to improve the condition of an estate, it is not plots of ground but large tracts that have to be dealt with. And vast sums are often necessary to bring the works to a successful completion. It is therefore unreasonable to expect that the ryot will take on himself the work which he has not the means to undertake and which legitimately belongs to the zemindar.

7thly. It would compel the landlord to take steps to prevent the accrual of occupancy rights in future. The zemindars are now quite indifferent as to this matter as your Honor has justly observed. But your memorialists are afraid that it would necessitate the adoption of measures on the part of the landlord to prevent such rights from accruing. This may lead to serious misunderstanding, even to disputes, which Government would by no means countenance.

8thly. It would make the ryot less careful as to the punctual payment of his rent. Your memorialists would here beg to observe that it is only idle, negligent or improvident ryots who are sold out for arrears. Thrifty and cautious ryots will never be in arrears or incur debts beyond their means. It is only on undeserving tenants that the law of ejectment operates severely. The fear of ejectment is a stronger incentive to regularity than the fear of being sold out—for in the latter case the Bill gives him the excess when a sale for default takes place. It is therefore by no means desirable that his improvidence should be rewarded in the end by depriving the zemindar of a valuable right in the land, which he has hitherto enjoyed.

9thly. It is doubtless true that the sale of a tenure would facilitate the realization of rent by the Zemindar but if the objectionable features of the measure were weighed against the single advantage of realization, the good resulting from it would be more than counterbalanced by the evils that it would give rise to. As regards the ryot, the increased facilities afforded him for borrowing would be a tool in his hands to work his own ruin by borrowing money on every possible occasion such as marriage ceremonies and so forth. Your memorialists are therefore of opinion that the measure would be injurious not only to the landlord but also to the tenant in the long run.

We are glad to observe that the objections which we have considered it our duty to offer to the sale of the occupancy tenure are endorsed by the landholders of East Bengal. The memorialists would prohibit sub-letting altogether. They thus express themselves on the subject:

With regard to the provision for sub-letting, your memorialists beg to observe that this will give rise to rack-renting, to a fearful extent and will simply convert the occupancy ryot into a middleman. The main object of the Legislature in creating the occupancy right was to give relief to the actual cultivator of the soil and not to any idle middleman or small Talookdar. But this object will not be attained if sub-letting be allowed even with the zemindar's consent. The restriction of obtaining the Zemindar's consent can check the creations of the first middleman for a time only; but when the consent has once been obtained, no further consent or even a reference to the zemindar will be necessary for the creation of a second middleman by the first; of a third one by the second; or of a fourth one by the third.

The intermediate tenure holder mentioned in Sec. 11 is virtually a middleman occupancy ryot with a number of occupancy ryots under him. Having thus created a number of middlemen between the zemindar and the *bonafide* cultivator, the Bill takes away the zemindar's right of enhancing the first middleman's rent by providing that the rent which he pays "shall not be liable to be enhanced above a sum which shall, in default of specific agreement to the contrary, in no case be less than 10 per cent. below the fair and equitable rates payable for the same land by a ryot having a right of occupancy." This provision, your memorialists beg to submit will not in the slightest degree lessen the pressure of rack-renting on the actual cultivator, but will unjustly take away the landholder's legitimate share and distribute it over a number of middlemen.

The memorial is thus clearly and fairly reasoned out. We wish the landholders and ryots in other parts of the country would come forward and express their opinions on the Bill.

THE CALCUTTA REVIEW.

THERE is much readable matter in the last number of the *Calcutta Review*. The first is a thoughtful article from the pen of Syud Mahmood, son of the Hon'ble Syud Ahmed. It is headed—"British Rule in India. Does it owe its origin to conquest and its maintenance to physical force?" We are glad that the writer has discussed the question on a broad basis. He says, "if conquest presupposes war, India cannot be said to have been conquered in the sense in which the word ought to be legitimately understood. The first footing of the East India Company in Bengal was not the result of brute force or military violence. The Company began by being peaceful traders, subject to the laws which at the time governed the province of Bengal. Their commerce flourished; their rights were not sufficiently respected; and by force of necessity, rather than by intention of conquest, they took steps which gave them the sovereignty of Bengal and ultimately of India. But these steps were not measures of conquest. Mr. Aitchison's description of them has the stamp of official accuracy, and the distinguished position which he so ably occupied in the Foreign Office gives to his words a special authority. In his work on Treaties, he says:—"A confederacy was formed among Surajood-Dowlah's chief officers to depose him. The English joined this confederacy and concluded a treaty with Jaafir Ali Khan. At the battle of Plassey, which was fought on the 23rd June 1757, the power of Surajood-Dowlah was completely broken, and Jaafir Ali Khan was installed by Clive as Subahdar of Bengal." We have always taken this view, and we are glad to observe that it is now receiving general acceptance. The writer remarks: "It is not difficult to prove that native blood has been shed in much greater abundance for the cause of the British rule in India than English blood: the black-haired and dark-complexioned Indian has won some of the greatest victories of the light-haired and fair-complexioned Saxon. Take the great battles of Indian history which secured to the British arms their supremacy in India. The battles of Plassey and of Buxar, the battle of Assaye and the siege of Arcot, alike redound to the credit of the native soldier and supply examples of his devotion to the English standard." Quite true. Col. Broome's history of the Sepoys affords abundant evidence on this point. We entirely agree with the writer when he says:

"Those who have studied the history of the rise and progress of the British power in India, can hardly deny that native co-operation was an essential element of the success. The British empire in the East has been built up by the combined efforts of the two nations; it is the product of the bravery and energy of both the races. Without the one the other could not have been successful. "When two conditions" says the greatest writer on political economy, "are equally necessary for producing the effect at all, it is unmeaning to say that so much of it is produced by one and so much by the other; it is like attempting to decide which half of a pair of scissors has most to do in the act of cutting; or which of the factors five and six contributes most to the production of thirty." The reasoning of John Stuart Mill is applicable to the creation of British supremacy in India. It hardly lies in the mouth of Englishmen to use contemptuous language towards us, because we helped them to build the empire over which they hold sway; it is hardly benefitting to give us the inviduous name of their "subjects," because we helped to bring about the supremacy of which they have become the owners. If we are filled with gratitude for the blessings which England has conferred upon India, let England not forget the services which we have done to her glory and power. Let Englishmen, instead of assuming the vainglorious name of "conquerors," do justice to historical truth and national morality, to humanity and civilization, by recognizing, not only in words but in deeds, the millions who inhabit the vast continent of India, as their fellow-men, fellow-workers, and fellow-subjects. It ought to be the glory of England and the pride of Englishmen that, whilst other nations have owed their dominions in foreign countries to brute force, the British rule in India owes its origin to the virtual consent and actual aid of her own people; that it owes its success and growth to principles of justice and humanity; that, whilst other nations looked to self-aggrandisement as the only object of extension of dominions, the conduct of the British nation in the East has been free from such reproach; that even the worst acts of territorial annexation had the best of motives—the welfare and prosperity of the people who inhabited the territories, not the pecuniary or political advantages of Englishmen."

The writer has correctly set forth the political situation in India. British rule has become a piece and parcel of our national existence, and we cannot do without it. The writer thus defends Indian criticism: "Those who think the complaints made by natives of this country, or their rude criticism of the Government, are indications of disloyalty, must be ignorant of the real state of native feeling. Our own experience shows a different path, and leads us to quite a different conclusion. Those who are most violent in abusing the British rule would be the last to wish for its departure from the shores of India; those who are most forward to advance complaints against the Government are its greatest appreciators; those who are most anxious to have the claims of India satisfied and her grievances redressed are the warmest supporters of British rule. Judge India by what she does, or does not do, not by what she says, or does not say and you will arrive at the truth." We have not space for more extracts. We turn to other articles. We have space for a cursory notice of one more which we consider is of the greatest practical importance. It is "Rural Life in Northern India" by Mr. Keene. This article deserves an extended notice, but we will lay before the reader one short extract. The writer thus discourses on the condition of the North West peasantry:

"A family, on an average, has to live on a patch of six-and-a-half acres. Suppose the average yield of such a holding to be 1,200lbs. of wheat per acre, selling at about Rs. 30 an acre, which will be allowed by the most competent judges to be a high estimate. The gross yearly income of such a family would be $6{\cdot}5 \times 30 = 195$ rupees. But out of this they would have to pay an average rental of $5\frac{1}{2}$ rupees an acre, or, say—Rs. 35 a year, leaving them Rs. 160, out of which (1) to maintain themselves and (2) to buy seed and to replace wear and tear of tools and cattle. Now for the first item, a family of five cannot well be fed and clothed (living free of house rent) for less than ten rupees a month, or Rs. 120 a year. This leaves Rs. 40 for all other purposes, including besides those above stated, the provision for bad years. How is this to be done? We may ask in vain for a long time. It is not done at all. Well, what does that mean? Why simply, that, in good years, the copyholders, and the small proprietors, favoured yeomen holding ancestral farms, have not the means of spending 2 rupees, say—3*s*. 6*d*. per month, or a little more than ten pence a week, on the food and clothing of each member of the family. What then can they do in bad years, or when other exceptional circumstances, such as a marriage or a funeral, add to their outlay? Money they must have. That money they must raise on the only security they have to offer, their crops or their landed rights. So raised, it can scarcely ever be repaid. Yet the interest, at least, must be liquidated on pain of law costs and imprisonment in

execution. The village-banker must be conciliated and kept in good humour; and the practical result is that the crops—otherwise, by legal theory, hypothecated to the State, or to the landlord—are really hypothecated to him who pays the rent and makes other opportune advances from time to time."

Such is the position of the peasantry in North-Western India. The proportion of population in this condition is enormous. The total population of Northern India is as follows: Oudh 11,220,232, N. W. P. 30,781,204, Punjab 17,611,498, total. 59,612,934. Now, nine-tenths of the population depend upon agriculture, and with them existence is a struggle. Compared with them it cannot be denied that the agricultural population of Bengal is far better off. What is the cause of this difference? We do not hesitate to say that it is the difference in the land settlement. The peasantry in Northern India are subject to a periodic settlement; the land revenue is subject to periodical revision and increase, and consequently they do not feel a sufficient stimulus to improvement. In Bengal the land revenue is fixed; the zemindar can enhance the rent, but he has not the sympathy of the legislature or the courts, and cannot consequently rack-rent the land. Besides, the ryot can always fight the private landlord, but it is hopeless for him to fight the state landlord. The permanent settlement we repeat for the thousandth time is the only panacea for the ills which the ryot flesh in India is heir to.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received the names of following subscribers to the Kaviraj Romanath Sen Memorial Fund:

		Rs.
Baboo	Lal Singh, Rungpore ... ... paid	25
,,	Madhub Kissen Sett, ...	25
,,	Kissen Mohan Mullick, ...	20
,,	Moorally Dhur Sen, ...	10
,,	Narendro Nath Sen, ...	10
,,	Bejoy Kissen Mookerji, ...	20

WE ARE exceedingly glad to learn that Mr. J. D. Bell, Standing Counsel to Government, will officiate as Advocate General during the absence on special leave of the Hon'ble G. C. Paul, C. I. E. A better selection could not have been made. A man of mature years, thorough knowledge, ripe judgment, and wide and generous sympathies, Mr. Bell is held in high esteem by all persons, who know him. Mr. Phillips will probably succeed Mr. Bell as Standing Counsel.

THE FOLLOWING reliable information from Mandalay has been placed at our disposal:

"Reports received from Mandalay, of frequent executions within the Palace, and the prisons, of the relations of the late King of Burmah who died about six months ago, and that much alarm is spreading in the capital.

There has been a wholesale execution in the Palace and prisions of the relatives, male and female, of the late King, by order of the present King, who seems to be displaying sudden ferocity. The widows of the late King are it is feared, included in the slaughter, which is causing great alarm in Mandalay. The Resident has been exerting himself boldly to remonstrate against these acts, but it is doubtful whether his protests have been effectual. He has no means of arresting with any certainty what may be going on in the Palace."

We do not hear good accounts of the young King. He is quite young, without any experience of the world, and without much education. On ascending the throne he seemed disposed to listen to the counsels of the minister, who is a sagacious and able man, but latterly it is said he has become a tool in the hands of his young companions. If Mr. Aitchison is coming, to Calcutta, he is probably coming to confer with His Excellency the Viceroy regarding the state of affairs at Mandalay.

WE HEAR from all sides complaints regarding the working of the License tax. Not only have most unconscionable surcharges been made, but persons not liable to the tax have been brought under it. For instance, zemindars, who give *tuccavi* advances to ryots for agricultural improvement, who derive no "earnings" from this source, have been assessed as money-lenders and called upon to pay the tax. Again, there is a provision in the License Tax Act that persons carrying on business in more districts than one shall be liable to assessment in all such districts. But the Legislature never meant that all branch-offices of a trader or merchant shall be subjected to assessment, whether they had "earnings" or not. The whole theory of the License tax is based upon "income" or "earnings," and where a person makes no earnings, he cannot in equity be liable to assessment. Now, there are merchants and traders, who make purchases only in certain districts, and as they do not make profits there, they are not clearly liable to assessment in those districts. Several cases of this kind have been brought to our notice, in which the appeals have been rejected. We hope the Board of Revenue will enquire into this matter, and pass an equitable ruling on the subject. Further, it has been brought to our notice that the owners of *hats* and *bazars* in the 24-Pergunnahs and some other districts are being assessed with the license tax. Now when the proprietors of markets in Calcutta were brought under the law, it was distinctly explained in Council that that provision would not apply to such property in the Mofussil, inasmuch as it was already subject to the Provincial Public Works Cess. Besides, the ownership of markets is no trade, and if the principle was departed from in the case of Calcutta, it was because the Calcutta License tax schedule, which was adopted for purposes of the imperial license tax, included markets. We hope the Board of Revenue will make an enquiry on the subject and redress the grievance complained of.

WHEN quoting from Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's last paper on the Pala and the Sena Rajas of Bengal we forgot to point out the object of the paper and the historical facts it establishes. The object is to show that the current opinion of the Pala's having held the whole of Bengal for some time and being replaced by the Senas is wrong. The learned Doctor proves that the two dynasties were contemporaneous, one holding the delta and Eastern Bengal and the other Western and Northern Bengal. Several generations held this position, until in the middle of the 11th century Vijaya Sena the father of Ballala Sena expelled the immediate successor of Mahipala from Northern Bengal. Even then the Senas did not remove their capital from Vikrampur. It was in the beginning of the 12th century that Lakshmana Sena established himself in Gour and called it Lakshmana vati. These facts we believe will appear new and interesting to our readers.

WE HAVE received a batch of papers from the Government of Bengal from which it appears that on a representation from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the reduction of Doorga Pujah holidays the Lieutenant Governor has resolved that "the subject should be considered and reported on in all its bearings by those, who are chiefly interested in a proper solution of the question." His Honor has accordingly appointed a Committee composed of the following gentlemen:

Hon'ble H. L. Dampier,—*President.*	J. D. Maclean Esq.
C. J. Brookes Esq.	The Hon'ble E. C. Mergan.
W. D. Bruce Esq. C. E.	,, ,, Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur C. I. E.
S. Cochrane Esq.	G. Yule Esq.
Babu Doorga Churn Law.	F. W. Badcock Esq.—*Secy.*

IT MAY be interesting to the reader to know how a purely oriental Government grapples with a famine. He is doubtless aware that a most terrible famine desolated some parts of China last year. Mr. Byron Breman, Acting Chinese Secretary, in an official memo, writes:

"The Chinese Government has continued throughout the year to issue relief, but it is only in the cities that the Imperial bounty is felt. There gruel is distributed, which serves to prolong the life of thousands for a few weeks or months, and perhaps enables some to tide over the whole period of scarcity; but the efforts made are spasmodic, and the system adopted so short sighted, that one is tempted to look upon the measures taken by the Government as merely carried out in deference to public opinion."

Every enlightened Government shows deference to public opinion, but is that to be counted a fault in the Chinese Government? In past years the British Government in India never acknowledged its duty to save the lives of its subjects from starvation, but the sense of indignation, which the muddle of the Orissa Famine of 1866 evoked, led our Government to pursue a different course in 1874. Is our Government to be blamed for shewing "deference to public opinion"? The measures which the Chinese Government are pursuing to resuscitate the people are these:

"All uncultivated lands should be re-distributed. Cultivators are to be encouraged to take up vacant holdings, seed being given and cattle provided, when necessary, as an inducement. Meantime enquiries will be set on foot, and the original proprietors sought out. At any time during five years the original holder may return and claim his property, the crop then in the ground being guaranteed to the temporary holder. Should five years elapse without any claimant coming forward, the person in possession will become absolute owner, and left in undisturbed enjoyment of the property.

The land tax should be re-assessed. Some hundreds of years ago both a land tax and a poll tax were exacted; subsequently, in the early part of the present dynasty, a census was taken, and the poll tax as then determined was merged into the land tax. In the province of Shansi, however, the reformed system was only applied in certain districts, the consequence being that in the remaining districts, where the taxes were collected on the old basis, the population, however sparse, had to make up the amount at which the locality had originally been assessed. The Governor, Tseng Kwo Chuan now suggests that a census be taken, and such abatement made in the land tax as the reduction in the population shows to be necessary. Another improvement of a similar nature which he suggested is that the regulations under which the male population is compelled to render suit and service to the Government should be revised. From the individual, the forced service has by degrees come to be transferred to the soil, and it frequently happens that an innocent purchaser of a property finds himself liable to be called upon to render service to the Government, or be heavily taxed for the exemption.

Meanwhile the land tax has been remitted in all the afflicted districts, and Officials have been despatched to the Mongolian markets to buy cattle for immediate removal to Shansi, in order that the people may resume their agricultural operations; and contrary to custom, provision is made for the supply of fodder on the way, instead of imposing this charge on the respective districts traversed on the road."

We commend these measures to the Indian Famine Commission. It is observable that while the Chinese Government have been remitting and lowering taxes, and giving substantial assistance to the people, our Government have imposed heavy taxation for a famine insurance fund, which after all may be applied to the defrayal of the expenses of the Affghan war.

AT LAST Thursday's meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta the names of candidates for the office of Secretary during the absence of Mr. Turnbull were submitted for election. There were some eleven candidates, but only three were duly proposed and seconded, *viz.*, Mr. Wyman, Mr. Napier Campbell, and Mr. Broughton. After considerable discussion, which occupied about two hours, the meeting divided as follows:

FOR MR. WYMAN.	FOR MR. CAMPBELL.
Baboo Bhoyrub Ch. Banerjee	Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadoor
G. Yule Esq.	Baboo Sreenath Chunder
Newab Ashgar Ali	J. Westland Esq.
Baboo Bhujendro S. Chatterji	R. C. Sterndale Esq.
,, Mooraly Dhur Sen	Baboo Pran Nath Dutt
Newab Meer Mahomed Ally	,, Gonesh Ch. Chunder
D. J. Zemin Esq.	W. H. Grimley Esq.
J. E. Caithness Esq.	Dr. Chambers
C. J. Brookes Esq.	Baboo Roma Kunto Sen
Raja Harendra Krishna.	,, Grindro Coomar Dutt
Newab Amir Ali Khan	Chairman
Baboo Rajendra Nath Mittra	11
,, Radharamun Mittra	FOR MR. BROUGHTON.
,, Prem Chand Boral	Rai Juggoda Nund Mookerjee, Bahadoor
,, Nemyi Churn Bose	F. J. Fergusson Esq.
,, Calley Churn Shome	A. A. Apcar Esq.
,, Nobin Chunder Boral	Rev. Dr. K. M. Banerjea
,, Kally Mohun Das	Baboo Sitta Nath Das
,, Jagobundhoo Bose	,, Probadh Ch. Mullick
,, Bhuggobutty Ch. Ghose	6
,, Sreenath Das	Two declined to vote
,, Amrito Nath Mittra	Baboo Kali Nath Mitter
,, Doorga Mohun Das	,, Preo Nath Dutt
,, Nobogapal Mittra	
,, Anundo Mohun Bose	Baboo Modhoo Soodun Dutt, (Left.)
,, Soorendra Nath Banerji	
A. W. Phipson Esq.	
R. Mittra Esq.	
Baboo Jogesh Ch. Dutt	
,, Charoo Ch. Mullick	
,, Bhubon Mohun Sircar	
31	

It is observable that out of 31 Commissioners, who voted for Mr. Wyman, no less than 9 were Government Commissioners, and that out of 11 Commissioners, who supported Mr. Campbell, only 4 were Government Commissioners. Mr. Wyman was thus elected by an overwhelming majority, subject to the sanction of Government. The salary of the officiating incumbent was fixed at Rs. 600 per mensem.

With reference to the above Mr. Wyman requests us to publish the following letter, which he has addressed the morning papers :

Sir,—I have read with the most intense astonishment the remarks reported in your paper of to-day, as made by the Chairman of the Corporation in reference to myself, to the effect that I left the Government service on account of "grave misconduct," and "under a cloud;" the fact being that I resigned the post I held at the Home Office entirely of my own accord, and solely with the view of accepting the higher paid appointment of Superintendent of the Military Orphan Press, itself a quasi-Government post, to which I was specially and highly recommended by Colonel W. N. Lees and Colonel Hannyngton, the Governor, then, of the Military Orphan Society.

The circumstance to which. I presume, Mr. Souttar refers (for I know of no other), is simply this: While Superintendent of the Home Department Press, I foolishly on one occasion printed there a programme or circular of some sort for a friend. Mr. Grey, the Secretary, on hearing of this, was at the time very angry, and the remarks in the Home Office records (whatever they may be) were no doubt penned by Mr. Grey, at the time. But the day following Mr. Grey sent for me, sharply rebuked me, and said such a thing must not occur again. I apologized for my indiscretion and there the matter ended. And I certainly could not have imagined that now, after the lapse of 19 years, the youthful indiscretion referred to could be brought against me.

I remained in my appointment at the Home Office some time after the occurrence referred to enjoying the approval and good will of Mr. Grey, and when I left to better myself, Mr. Grey spoke to me most kindly, and later, wrote me the following letter:

Home Office, June 30, 1860.

Dear Sir,—I congratulate you on your new appointment, which your note just received announces. I beg also to tender you my thanks for your obliging offer of any assistance which it may be in your power to give to the Press of this Department.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of your note, I am happy to be able to express my satisfaction with the manner in which the press of the Home Department has been conducted during the past year.

F. F. Wyman Esq. Your's faithfully, (Signed) W. GREY.

Further, subsequently when Sir William Grey had become Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, he himself appointed me to the Bengal Legislative Council, having previously written me under his own hand a flattering invitation to accept the post. This letter is in the hands of my kind friend and proposer Babu Surendro Nath Banerji, to whom as to my seconder Mr. Brookes, and to all my supporters, my most grateful thanks are due and are hereby tendered

I think it will be considered that the letter of Sir William Grey, addressed to me on my voluntary departure from the Home Office is a sufficient proof of the estimation in which that high officer of Government, and my then immediate superior, held me and my character.

After this explanation [which I am sorry was not permitted me before], I feel sure that Mr. Souttar will be the first to regret the mistake into which he has inadvertently fallen.

F. F. WYMAN.

Calcutta February 21*st* 1879.

We are glad to observe that Mr. Wyman has preserved his temper so well in this letter. We are, however, sorry to notice that some of our contemporaries find fault with Mr. Souttar for his allusion to the "cloud," under which he was informed Mr. Wyman had left the Government service. Mr. Wyman has now explained what that "cloud" was, but Mr. Souttar was perfectly right in telling the Commissioners what he knew of the several candidates. It was a duty, which he owed to himself, to the Commissioners, and to the public at large. The same course was followed by some of the Commissioners and the Chairman respecting the election of the Collector. It is, therefore, most ungenerous, to say the least, to attribute "ingenious malice" to Mr. Souttar. Surely such language is not calculated to promote cordiality between the Chairman and his confidential minister, the Secretary.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial of the "manufacturers of Bengal" on the Factory Bill. It is a sensible and practical document. They thus protest against the necessity of the measure:

The condition of the Bengal labouring population working in factories is exceptionally prosperous, and far above that of the cooly and agricultural classes from which it is recruited. Men, women, and children earn high wages. They work in spacious and lofty buildings, perfectly ventilated and furnished with all sanitary requirements. Medical officers are provided to attend them when sick. Their work is of that light character suited to their physique. They are treated with an indulgence unknown in any other manufacturing centre. They are permitted to go out frequently during the day to eat, smoke, and bathe, and a large number of surplus hands is employed to permit of this being done without inconvenience. The number of work people employed in a Bengal mill is at least double that required to do the same amount of work in an English factory, and mills all work with double sets of hands. The healthy and contented appearance of men, women, and children cannot fail to strike every visitor, and is unmistakeable evidence that the laborers have nothing to complain. They are on good terms with their employers, and are allowed to work easily at their own time and in their own way. Those acquainted with the character and habits of the Bengal cooly will recognise his preference for work under these conditions to the alternative method adopted in England, where the eager taskmaster requires every moment to be busily employed.

Such being the condition of the factory laborer, there seems no necessity for legislation in his interests, and it becomes requisite to enquire into the object of the Bill.

It is gratifying to observe that both natives and Europeans are at one on the subject. But Manchester is too powerful. She can sway the fate of the Ministry in Parliament—and there lies the rub!

WE THANK the Press Commissioner for a copy of the Resolution of the Government of India on the working of the Registration Departments throughout India. The financial results of the registration system in the different provinces are shewn in the following table:

Expenditure.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras ...	283053	311503	329449
Bombay ...	237958	246549	242202
Bengal ...	417402	430168	467355
N. W. Provinces. ...	143481	145493	141723
Oudh ...	39538	41646	39667
Punjab ...	102829	100504	100410
Central Provinces. ...	26023	25824	25674
British Burma ...	4853	4964	5148
Mysore ...	20932	24036	24063
Coorg ...	1058	1073	1276
Assam ...	13753	12480	15809
Hyderabad (including Secunderabad.) ...	17306	20383	24063
Total ...	1307441	1361523	1412837

Receipts.	1875 76.	1876-77.	1877-78.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras ...	381366	392193	445681
Bombay ...	228640	232373	266364
Bengal ...	556605	666882	674239
N. W. Provinces. ...	240142	263411	321023
Oudh ...	55639	58872*a*	73588
Punjab ...	160919	141975	186119
Central Provinces. ...	43740	44653	47269
British Burma ...	8085	10211*c*	10362
Mysore ...	26946	29554	34717
Coorg ...	1941	1806*d*	1712
Assam ...	14440	15202	18480
Hyderabad (including Secunderabad.) ...	18894	20950	27809
Total ...	1738737	1776791	2 099192

Total number of registration.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.
Madras ...	237783	251405	289622
Bombay ...	57650	76381	90297
Bengal ...	457651	466574	550269
N. W. Provinces. ...	142918	133725	174496
Oudh ...	37784	38002	51062
Punjab ...	71717	61114*b*	84052
Central Provinces. ...	17324	17121	17754
British Burma ...	3556	3726	4091
Mysore ...	11403	12542	17381
Coorg ...	585	594	564
Assam ...	8356	9.04	12342
Hyderabad (including Secunderabad.) ...	9593	11055	13870
Total ...	1074220	1080243	1306700

The gain to the general revenue is more than five lacs per annum. We think this surplus ought to be devoted to the offer of greater facilities in the way of registration.

REFERRING to Mr. Furrell's remarks at the last Trades' Dinner on the functions of the press the *Bombay Review* has the following:

It would have been better both for Mr. Furrell and his critic to put the position of journalists on the obvious professional basis, namely, that they are men who have for most of their lives been accustomed to observe affairs consecutively studying men and measures from the stand-point of broad public interests, and, it may fairly be presumed, have some natural or acquired aptitude for studying current history and the science of politics. Press-men may be of all sorts of qualities and schools, as are lawyers, preachers, and doctors; but it is at least safe to assume that they have more aptitude in dealing with political and social questions than can be predicated of other men who only take up public topics as matters of conversation and read newspapers for pleasure and amusement or to pick up information on passing events. Mr. Furrell, Mr. Kristodas Pal, (who spoke well on the same occasion) and the editor of the *Statesman* are as different as three men in the same profession can well be, but either of them have, say, six times more knowledge of public affairs and the principles that underlie politics and administration than is probably possessed by ninety-seven or so, per cent of the rest of the Company at the Trades Dinner.

We think Mr. Furrel was unhappy when he said that it was not the function of the journalist to *create* public opinion. Perhaps the word *create* was not the right one—but it cannot be denied that it is the function of the journalist to mould public opinion. The *Review* is quite right in saying that the journalist by his habits of thought and study understands better the science of politics than the ordinary observer, and the information and arguments which he publishes go a great way in forming the opinions of his readers. Of course intelligent men do not blindly surrender their judgment to a leader, but they have not the time or resources for collecting facts and thinking out a subject to its legitimate issues. The lucubrations of the journalist help them in shaping and maturing their opinions.

WE HAVE received the following letter from our Krishnaghur correspondent anent the late trial:—

SIR.—As promised in my last letter I now proceed to give you a more detailed account of the case of the Empress vs. Ananda Chandra Sirkar, Treasury Accountant. Some of the disclosures made in the course of the trial were of such a startling character, that they deserve to be brought prominently to the notice of the public.

You will be surprised to hear of the circumstances under which the present prosecution originated. Most of your readers will remember that when Benigopal Mookerjee was tried last year for these forgeries, his defence was that he was entirely innocent and that the forgeries had been committed probably in the Treasury after the cheque had passed out of his hands. He was however as you are aware convicted and sentenced to 14 years' transportation. It appears sometime after his conviction, a letter was published in the *Indian Mirror* containing serious imputations against Rai Jadu Nath Roy Bahadur, Vice-Chairman, Road Cess Committee, Babu P. N. Sirkar Treasury Officer and Babu Ananda Chundra Sirkar Treasury Accountant in connection with Banigopal's defalcation. Thereupon Rai Jadunath prosecuted the editor and publisher of the *Mirror* for defamation in the Court of the Joint-Magistrate of Nuddea. After the Magistrate had framed charges in this case Babu Tarapoda Banerjee, who appeared as pleader for the accused, seems to have proceeded to Calcutta in company with an ex-police officer (now Deputy Magistrate) named Babu Tarunchundra Sirkar in order to have an interview with Benigopal Mookerjee, who was then in the Presidency Jail. After Tarapoda Babu's return from Calcutta Benigopal was cited as witness for the defence in the defamation case. It appeared from Benigopal's deposition that Babu Tarapoda who had been his vakeel in his own trial had visited him on three different days in the Jail, and that he had been induced to make a statement in support of the libel contained in that letter in the *Indian Mirror*, of which Babu Tarapoda at the same time represented himself to have been the author. This was the statement in which Benigopal for the first time mentioned the names of his alleged accomplices. Benigopal admitted that he would not have made the statement at all, but for fear of further prosecutions and the hope of a possible mitigation of sentence which had been held out to him by Babu Tarapoda. As regards the portion of his statement which had reference to Rai Jadunath he further acknowledged that it was not true. It appears also that before Babu Tarapoda's visit in the Jail Mr. Monro had exhorted Benigopal to make a clean breast of the whole affair, and name his accomplices, if he had any, but on that occasion he did not make any statement on the subject. It has also transpired in the course of the last trial that Mr. Taylor Magistrate of the District had empowered Babu Tarapoda to visit Benigopal in the Presidency Jail. It does not however appear that Mr. Taylor was made aware of the fact that Babu Tarapoda was privy to the libellous letter in question nor is it probable that had Mr. Taylor known of this fact, he should have given any such authority to a person who was obviously interested in obtaining a statement from Benigopal in support of that letter. The conduct of Babu Tarapoda in this matter was strongly commented upon by the Counsel for the defence in the case of Babu Ananda Chunder Sirkar and the learned judge's remarks I gave in my last.

Mr. Monro who happened to be at Krishnaghur at the time seems to have made this statement of Benigopal the foundation of the present case against the accountant Babu Ananda Chundra Sirkar. In the investigations which immediately preceded this prosecution, Mr. Monro was assisted by Babu Tarun Chunder Sirkar, the same gentleman who had accompanied Babu Tarapoda to the Presidency Jail and had taken down the statement which Benigopal had been there induced to make. It appears also that Babu Tarun Chunder Sirkar is an intimate friend of the District Engineer Babu Dwarka Nath Sirkar, who was made the complainant in the case, and who was curiously enough eulogized in the letter to the *Indian Mirror* as the discoverer of these frauds, though it appears from his own evidence in this case that were it not for his utter negligence and want of supervision the defalcations could not have passed undetected for such a length of time. It may not be out of place to mention here that Babu Dwarknath Sirkar admitted that he was in the habit of borrowing money from Banigopal, who was the accountant of his office and that he had never even by mistake looked at a single advice list which used to be sent to his office almost daily by the Treasury, although he had himself requested to be furnished with them. It is also remarkable as was pointed out by the Counsel for the defence that various documents such as letters on the subject of over-drawal, receipt book of advices &c. which would have helped the defence of the Treasury people and might have shifted the responsibility on to other shoulders were not forthcoming, although they were called for by the defendant.

The next point that requires to be noticed is the conduct of Babu Romes Chunder Mookerjee, a Deputy Magistrate, at present in charge of the Treasury and who was also a witness for the prosecution in this case. It appears that after Anand Babu had been committed for trial, the late Sessions Judge Mr. Dickens, on an application on behalf of the Defendant released him on bail, chiefly on the ground that he might be prejudiced in his defence, if he were unable to inspect various documents and accounts belonging to the Treasury on which he may have to rely. The day after this order was passed and before the defendant had asked to be allowed to see those documents, the Treasury Officer Babu Romesh Chunder, after a communication from the Government Pleader, issued a slip to the effect that the defendant was not to be allowed to have any access to these papers. An order was subsequently obtained from the Collector permitting the Defendant to do so, but Babu Romesh Chunder apparently in his zeal for the prosecution, did what he could, to render the Collector's order nugatory by making the following endorsement upon it "Allow the accountant to see the papers, but not to take any notes from them." Babu Romesh Chunder as may be expected, was severely cross-examined upon this point, and in answer to one of the questions of the Counsel, he said that although he was himself a judicial officer, he saw nothing wrong in this

course, the obvious tendency of which was to deprive an accused person of the means of establishing his defence and defeat the very object for which the Judge had granted bail. Babu Romes Chunder also described himself as a zealous advocate of the interest of Government and was one of the witnesses of whom Mr. Tottenham said that it would have been better if they had not allowed their zeal to affect their evidence.

The third point to which I wish to draw the attention of the public is, in connection with the appearance of some of the forged cheques. Great stress was laid by the prosecution upon the palpable nature of the forgeries for which it was argued that those who passed them could not have done so, honestly. But it was pointed out by the Counsel for the defence that at least two of these cheques had been tampered with by somebody with a view to shew that the forgery was more palpable than it really was at the time it passed through the hands of the accused. It appears that the original amount in these cheques was written in faint ink, and that after Mr. Stevens' signature, the additions constituting the forgery, were made also in the same faint ink but curiously enough it appears now that somebody had re-written those additional words in darker ink, thus making them contrast with the faint ink of the original words. This was apparent upon a minute examination of the cheques, because some portions of the faint ink-writing was visible underneath the dark ink that was put over it. It was therefore contended by the Counsel for the defence that as Benigopal had already succeeded in making the forgery imperceptible the subsequent re-writing in dark ink could not have been done by some body in the interest of the prosecution, who was anxious to render the forgeries gross and palpable in the eyes of the Judge and Jury. In regard to this matter, Mr. Tottenham observed in his charge to the Jury, that the prosecution had failed to give any explanation in reply to the suggestion of the Counsel for the defence.

The last point which I wish to touch upon, is the introduction by the prosecution at a later stage of the case, of a story regarding a set of sham Pass Books, which the defendant was alleged to have kept. Babu Dwarkanath Sircar admitted in cross-examination, that he had never mentioned this incident to Mr. Stevens, although for nearly 18 months after the discovery of the frauds he had held numerous consultations with him, on the possibility of Benigopal having any accomplice in the Treasury, and although the circumstance of the sham Pass Books, if true, was in Dwarka Babu's own opinion, conclusive of the defendant's guilt. Babu Dwarkanath admitted that he had assisted Mr. Stevens in drawing up his reports exonerating the defendant entirely, and that he himself had acquiesed in that opinion, although if his present story regarding the sham Pass Books were true, he must all the time have been aware of conclusive evidence of the defendant's guilt. Mr. Tottenham observed in regard to this episode, that it owed its origin to a paragraph in a document called for by the defence and that he the learned Judge not only entirely disbelieved the story but in his opinion the defence was entitled to the benefit of its discomfiture.

I am afraid I have trespassed too much on your space but the circumstances which I have briefly related are of such a startling character that it is universally believed by the public here that the Government would never have sanctioned this prosecution had it been aware of any of these disclosures.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

General Biddulph has reconnoitred up to Har Killa Dist the Junction of Helmund and Argandab rivers. Reports received that on the 10th at Colonel Ryall's Camp Kalah Mr. Mahommed in Arghasan valley, a horseman advanced alone towards the camp dismounted and fired at a European soldier missing him. He subsequently fired one or two shots into camp before he was killed, about forty armed men watched his proceedings from a distance. They were driven off by the troops in camp and two were killed others wounded. No loss on our side. Information given in *Bombay Gazette* telegram that a large number of men were supposed to be at Marup not confirmed by official reports. Mali Mahomed reached Jellalabad on the 16th. Zaidbin Mahomad is continuing his piratical aggressions on Kateef Coast in the Persian Gulf, and the measures taken by local Turkish Government to stop him have failed. The Resident at Bushire has taken steps to protect Bahrein. Telegram received from Ceylon states that the Tamar troopship was expected there on the 18th and the 57th Regiment hoped to embark for the Cape within forty eight hours. The home Government have thanked the Indian Government for offer of troops to proceed to Cape and expressed gratification at the readiness and ability of India to help. At the same time Her Majesty's Government have not availed themselves for the present of the proffered contingent.

Colonel Waterfield, Commissioner of Peshawer, the Political Officer with General Robert's force, has broken his leg, his horse having fallen with him, in the Kurrum Valley.

All is quiet in the Khyber not a shot been fired for a fortnight. Major Prothers A. D. C. to General Stewart appointed temporary political duty Candahar.

General Roberts head-quarters reached. Thull on eighteenth. The Road on both banks of the river will soon be fit for cart traffic.

General Watson with a portion of the Native contingent arived on nineteenth.

Information has been received from Jellalabad that Moollah Mushki Alum of Ghazni wrote to Azmutullah Khan directing him to go to Cabul. He has obeyed but none of his tribe would accompany him. Yakoob has sent to summon the Khugram tribe to Cabul. Nearly all the Kohistani soldiers have left Cabul.

The Ameer is reported to be still at Muzari Shereef.

Some of Ghilzai chiefs have come in to see Sirdar Wali Mahomed.

Syed Mahomed has had an engagement with some sajour tribes, who wished to force a passage through Kunar. He dispersed them. Some lives were lost on both sides. Sirdar Nazamuddeen, recently taken prisoner in Sughman, has been sent to Kabul. Two men of the Khugiani tribe murderd two dooly bearers yesterday. The criminals were pursued by some men of the Guides and cut down, one is dead, and the other is dying. No important news from Kabul.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*February* 19, 1879.

GENERAL.—Moulvi Mahomed Abdul Kadir, Depty Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Soopool division of the Bhagulpur district, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may have availed himself of it.

Baboo Ram Churn Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bagirhat, Jessore, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Soopool division of the Bhagulpore district during the absence, on leave, of Moulvi Mahomed Abdul Kadir, or until further orders.

Baboo Soshee Bhusun Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Muddehpoorah division of the Bhagulpore district, is also appointed to have charge of the Soopool division of that district till relieved by Baboo Ram Churn Bose, or until further orders.

Mr. E. H. Whinfield, who reported his return from furlough on the 4th instant, is allowed leave for twenty-one days from that date, to enable him to join his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Cuttack.

In modification of the orders of the 21st ultimo, Mr. H. W Alexander, Opium Agent, Behar, is allowed leave for six months under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. T. Norman, Magistrate and Collector, Balasore is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. Whitmore, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. Norman, or until further orders.

Mr. T. Smith, who has returned from furlough, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Backergunge, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. J. C. Geddes, or unti further orders.

The orders of the 7th instant, granting Mr. F. H. McLaughlin, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Noakholly privilege leave for one month and fifteen days, are cancelled.

Baboo Shyamadhub Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is allowed leave for fourteen days, under Section 12-2 Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted him under orders dated the 29th ultimo.

Mr. R. F. Rampini, who reported his return from furlough on the 4th instant, is allowed subsidiary leave for thirty days from that date, enable him to join his appointment as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Chittagong.

Mr. J. D. Gael, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted temporarily to Pubna with effect from the date on which he joined that district.

Baboo Gunga Nund Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is allowed leave for one month under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 20th instant or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. R. Millar, C.S., is allowed extension of furlough for six months on medical certificate, by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India.

Mr. G. K. Lyon, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rajshahye is transferred temporarily to Dinagepore with effect from the 12th instant.

Baboo Komul Nath Ghose Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Pooree, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

The services of Baboo Promoda Nath Mookerjee, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Jhenida, Jessore, are placed temporarily at the diposal of the Board of Revenue for employment in the Ramnuggur Wards' Estate.

In supersession of the orders of the 10th instant, Mr. A. Forbes, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector 24-Pergunnahs is tranferred temporarily to the Sudder Station of the Shahabad district.

Mr. E. M. Reily, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Gya, on leave, is transferred to Dacca.

Moulvi Ikram Russul Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in temporary charge of the Kissengunge division of the Purneah district is transferred to the Sudder Station of that district.

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NOTICE.

Babu Lukshmee Narain Rai Chowdhry, one of the leading Zemindars of Katuk, has given to Geerish Chunder Birmocharee, the Bedant Student of Kalipud Ghoshal Rai Bahadur, Co. Rs. 20 to erect a Tole.

It is to be hoped that, Rai Mohunlal Mittra, Rai Rampershad Mittra Bahadur, and Babu Dhurmodas Haldar the son of the late Babu Neel Ratun Haldar, have also made up their minds to subscribe for that purpose.

Wanted an experienced Sub-Surveyor, who can survey and level, draw plans, and plot sections from field notes; for Goalpara District Roads. Salary Rupees 50 and horse allowance Rupees 15 per mensem. Apply to undersigned with testimonials.

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CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Tenders are hereby invited for the supply of Crushed Food to the Municipal Gowckhanahs for one year commencing from the 1st April next. Full particulars can be obtained from the Engineer on application.

Tenders are to be accompanied by a deposit of Rs. 500 as earnest money and will be received by the Engineer up to the 28th instant only. Covers to be superscribed "Tenders for crushed food."

JAMES KIMBER C. E.
Engineer to the Corporation.

Leases for three years of the under-mentioned Tanks will be put up to public auction at the Municipal Office on Wednesday the 26th instant at noon.

Jhao Talao, Auckland Square, Pauchcootee Square, Short Bazar Square, Goristan Tank, Wellesley Square, College Square, Amherst Square, Cornwalli's Square, Muajeed, Victoria Square and Blacquires.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

The Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will put up to auction at the Municipal Office, on Saturday the 1st March 1879 at noon, the lease for three years of the Premises situated at No. 119 Upper Chitpore Road for some time used as a Gowckhanah. Further particulars can be obtained on application.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
SECRETARY TO THE CORPORATION

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE (SESSION FOR 1879.)

The Association affords facilities for the experimental study of the various branches of Physics, and of Chemistry.

An annual examination in the subjects lectured upon is held with a view to test the progress of students who regularly attend the lectures of the Association. Distinguished merit is rewarded by the award of three Prizes (given by Babu Joy Kissen Mookerjea,) two Silver Medals, and five Scholarships of Rs. 10 each per month tenable for one year (given by the Association.) The conditions on which these Prizes, Medals and Scholarships are awarded are as under:

No student is admitted to the examination, who shall not have attended at least four-fifths of the number of lectures delivered in the course of the year.

First Prize of Rs. 100 is awarded to the student who shall obtain the highest number of marks in the annual examination, provided that number does not come short of two-thirds of the marks from written, and one-half from practical, examination.

Second Prize of Rs. 60, to the student who shall pass second best in the annual examination, provided the number of marks he obtains does not come short of one-half from written, and one-third from practical, examination.

Third Prize of Rs. 40, to the student who shall pass third in the annual examination, provided the number of marks he obtains does not come short of one-third from within and one-fourth from practical, examination.

The student who passes first in Physics, and the student who passes first in Chemistry, each receives a Silver Medal.

Scholarships are awarded to students who shall obtain at least half the number of marks in both written and practical examination. Scholarshipholders must attend the lectures and work in the laboratory of the Association during the time they draw their scholarships.

As the Session for 1879 has just commenced, and as the next examination will be held in about the middle of December, students who intend to compete for prizes, Medals and Scholarships are requested to have their names registered at the office of the Association at once.

Admission Fee—*Annas* 8 for a single lecture; Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive lectures.

Students may avail themselves of Members' Tickets (under Rule 13 of the Association), provided they bring a certificate either from a Member or from the head of the Institution to which they belong, to the effect that they will attend the lectures regularly, present themselves at the annual examination, and that they are unable to pay for the lectures.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.
Honorary Secretary

বিজ্ঞাপন।

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The Legal Companion for January 1879, contains a Digest of Rulings on the Indian Penal Code, reported in all the volumes of the Bengal Law Reports and the Indian Law Reports (complete Series) up to December 1878, arranged under its different sections, besides other matters of gereral interest to the legal profession. Price one rupee only.

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The Residence of the Honorary Secretary to the above Society is at No. 18 Lall Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgent need of funds and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by

J. LAMBERT,
Honorary Secretary.

10*th January* 1879.

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Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company,
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

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Notice.

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An extra rate of 3 guineas will be charged to Officers proceeding on active service into Afghanisthan.

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DARLINGTON'S
INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

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☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah St. Calcutta.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose two currency notes of ten rupees each and beg you will kindly send me eight bottles more (large size) of your famous "Infallible Pain-Curer" which is undoubtedly worthy of its name. Yours most obediently, Digamber Pershad, English teacher to Baboo Sreedhur Sahi, Zemindar of Manjha, camp Ajodhya in Fyzabad.

Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Bandora, Bombay Presy, writes :

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer efficacious, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, Yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE.
Superioress Felia de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain-Curer. I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITNIS. Subordinate Judge.
Kaira. Guzrath, Bombay Presidency.

Dear Sirs.—Your Infallible Pain-Curer, which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee Toondla has done him good and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him. Yours faithfully,

KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4 Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains. I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully, RAJENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahur Khasbatty, *via* Kanchraparah, Camp Rungown.

Gentlemen,—I enclose Telegraph Stamps, and beg you will kindly send me another bottle of your "Infallible Pain-Curer," which is undoubtedly worthy of its name.

Yours faithfully,
P. THORPE, No. 39 Anderson Street, Black Town, Madras.

Notice.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

On and from 1st February 1879, the Up and Down Mixed trains which now only run to, and from Julpaiguri, will run through to Silrguri, as follows :—

UP MIXED TRAIN.

Julpaiguri.....	Dep.	10 42 P. M.
Siliguri	Arr.	12 19 A. M.

DOWN MIXED TRAIN.

Siliguri	Dep.	1 48 A. M.
Julpaiguri	Arr.	3 25 „

By Order,
G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Superintendent.

Traffic Supdt.'s Office : Saidpur, 31st Jannary 1879.

NOTICE.

Baboo Khetter Nauth Bhattacharjee (late of the Public Works and Road Cess Department) will undertake to design and superintend the construction of Buildings and to act as an Engineer and Surveyor in the partition of House and landed properties. Communications to be addressed to him at 70/1 Sookea's Street, Calcutta.

NOTICE.

The Midnapore Canal between Dainan and Midnapore will be closed for silt clearance between 15th March and 30th April next, instead of between 15th February and 31st March as previously advertized.

D. B. HORN,
Asst. Chief Engineer, Bengal Irrigation Branch.

Fort William, the 14th February 1879.

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„ „ 5, Do. do. do.
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Plain Silver Medals,	1¼ inches diameter	Rs. 11 in case.
„ „ „	1½ „	„ 15 „

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Each complete in morocco case.

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Two maunds of this are equal to three maunds of that ordinarily sold. It is perfectly dry and pure, not being mixed with burnt coal or other inferior stuffs. Per maund 9 annas 6 pie, cart and cooly paid by us and delivered at purchasers' houses.

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